

United Nations Peace Operations
YEAR IN REVIEW

2005



A good year for peacekeeping



United Nations



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2005: A good year for peacekeeping operations

For UN peacekeeping, 2005 was in many ways a banner year.

After having launched four new operations in 2004 and the Sudan mission in 2005, the Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO) was, at its peak during the year, directing 18 peace operations across the world, comprising some 85,000 troops, police and civilian personnel and directly affecting some 200 million men, women and children in host countries.

The Department of Political Affairs (DPA) also led eight special political missions and peacebuilding support offices in West and Central Africa, Central Asia, Iraq and the Middle East.

As the expression of the collective will of the international community to assist societies moving from armed conflict to peace, peacekeeping continued to grow in scope and complexity.

New missions tackled a range of complex and multidisciplinary tasks including disarming combatants, organizing democratic elections, building local police and security capacities, restoring public order, running public adminis-

trations, monitoring human rights and shoring up fragile peace agreements.

During the same year, two external reports credited UN peace operations with a quantifiable reduction in international conflict and war-related deaths.

A number of major milestones were achieved in 2005: a large peace support operation began deployment in Sudan to bolster the Comprehensive Peace Agreement signed in March between north and south Sudan. Missions led by DPKO and DPA supported the organization of landmark elections in Afghanistan, Burundi, Liberia, Iraq and the Democratic Republic of the Congo, which held its first democratic vote in four decades, during which the population approved a draft constitution. Plans for parliamentary elections in Haiti and in the DRC were in the works for early 2006.

Two peacekeeping operations closed—in Sierra Leone and Timor-Leste—having successfully achieved their mandates to solidify peace and help expand and strengthen the authority of democratically elected governments. New

integrated mission offices with mandates of longer-term peacebuilding are under way in both those countries.

In Kosovo, the UN peacekeeping operation worked to hold the local administration to standards of governance to prepare for talks on final status which were to begin in early 2006. In the DRC, UN troops, in a series of operations, progressed dramatically toward restoring stability in Eastern Congo. In Côte d'Ivoire, the mission wrestled with serious challenges to the peace agreement of 2003, but a crisis was averted when all parties accepted Charles Konan Banny as interim prime minister in December. In Georgia, the UN observer mission continued to monitor the ceasefire and promote a political settlement of the conflict.

Regrettably, no progress was made in overcoming the deadlock in Western Sahara, and stalemate persisted in the peace process between Eritrea and Ethiopia.

Other long-standing UN operations remained on the ground in the Middle East, India and Pakistan and Cyprus, continuing to provide much needed stability in their areas of operation.

Nearly two dozen countries contributed uniformed personnel for the first time to UN peace operations, bringing the total number of troop and police contributing countries to 107, with Bangladesh the largest troop contributor by the end of the year (9,758 troops), and the U.S. the largest financial contributor, accounting for 27 percent of peacekeeping's \$5.03 billion budget for July 2005 through June 2006.

The need for long-term efforts to maintain sustainable peace convinced UN Member States at the 2005 Summit to create a Peacebuilding Commission, an advisory body which will work to coordinate and ensure long-term international commitments to countries emerging from conflict.

UN Photo by Martine Perret



Cibitoke woman voting in Burundi election, 7 April 2005

UN establishes Peacebuilding Commission

As a major outcome of reform initiatives endorsed by world leaders at the September Summit, the General Assembly established a new Peacebuilding Commission on 20 December to help rebuild and stabilize countries emerging from conflict. As studies have shown that up to half those countries can relapse into conflict within five years of a peace agreement, this decision could mark a watershed in UN efforts to help states and societies manage the difficult transition from war to peace.

The Commission will for the first time bring together all the major actors concerned with a country emerging from conflict to decide on a long-term peacebuilding strategy. By establishing a link between immediate post-conflict efforts on the one hand and long-term recovery and development efforts on the other, it will fill a previously existing gap in the UN system. The Commission will focus attention on reconstruction and institution-building and improve coordination within and outside the UN system so that international attention does not wane during the crucial post-conflict years.

The Commission, an advisory body, will be made up of 31 members: seven from the Security Council, including the five permanent members; another seven from the Economic and Social Council; five from the top 10 financial contributors to the United Nations; and five from the 10 nations that supply the most troops for peacekeeping missions. Seven others will be chosen to ensure geographical balance by regional groupings. Representatives of the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund and other institutional donors will be expected to attend meetings. Authorities of the country under consideration by the Commission – as well as its neighbors – will also play an active role in the process.

The idea for a Peacebuilding Commission evolved from the perceived need at the UN for a coordinated, coherent and integrated approach to post-conflict peacebuilding and reconciliation. The Commission is expected to address the special needs of individual countries emerging from conflict and to help prevent future conflicts by helping parties to end hostilities and work towards recovery, reconstruction and development and in mobilizing international assistance.

The Commission will be supported by a small Peacebuilding Support Office, which will provide the Commission with the information and analysis needed to coordinate UN's peacebuilding efforts.

The roles of peacekeepers also grew more complex and risky in 2005: robust peacekeeping, including military operations to protect civilians in the DRC and Haiti, also cost lives: 121 peacekeepers died on mission in 2005, including nine Bangladeshi soldiers killed in an ambush in the DRC in February.

The peacekeeping community also confronted the ugly specter of sexual exploitation and abuse by peacekeepers, which Under-Secretary-General Jean-Marie Guéhenno has called “one of the most shameful episodes in UN peacekeeping.” Enforcing the Secretary-General’s zero tolerance policy on sexual exploitation and abuse became a major priority for DPKO and the entire Organization during 2005, which began implementing a wide range of recommendations proposed by the Secretary-General’s special advisor on the issue, Jordan’s Prince Zeid Ra’ad Al-Hussein.

The UN Secretariat continued to improve its capacity to deploy peacekeeping operations immediately upon a peace agreement. Although proposals for a reserve military force did not win Member States’ approval at the 2005 World Summit, its Outcome Document did authorize the creation of a standing, on-call police capacity.

Peacekeeping missions became increasingly “integrated” during the past year, with Deputy Special Representatives of the Secretary-General in several missions doubling as UN Resident Coordinators, ensuring that the humanitarian and development aspects of a post-conflict situation—and the relevant UN agencies—were progressively better coordinated with the peacekeeping operation.

Two major studies in 2005—one by the US’ Rand Corporation and another by the University of British Columbia—credited UN peace operations with helping to reduce conflict and build

stable nations. The Human Security Report, wrote one of its UBC authors, showed that the UN has “played a critical role in enhancing global security.”

The International Crisis Group in its end of the year “CrisisWatch” cited four conflict situations that had improved at the end of 2005: three of these were the sites of UN peace operations—the DRC, Côte d’Ivoire and Afghanistan.

During a year of growth and renewed reliance on UN peace operations, the UN’s objective has been to improve its capacities to deploy quickly and efficiently, fulfill its mandates with a unique range of expertise and a “duty of care” for the host population and create an effective and cost-efficient basis for sustainable peace. Facing new and ever growing challenges, the Organization will continue the implementation of reforms aimed at further improving the way it plans, deploys and sustains peace operations. ■

Sierra Leone: A success story in peacekeeping

The UN Mission in Sierra Leone (UNAMSIL) completed its mandate in December, ending six years of peacekeeping in the country. UNAMSIL's achievements may serve as a model for successful peacekeeping, as well as a prototype for the UN's new emphasis on peacebuilding.

In 1999, UN peacekeepers moved into Sierra Leone to oversee a feeble peace process which included monitoring a shaky ceasefire and supporting a transition to democratic governance. Since then, the UN has helped the war-ravaged country to make impressive gains towards peace, demonstrating how the world body can respond to the needs and demands of countries emerging from conflict in a rapidly changing global environment.

Over the course of its mandate, the UN disarmed more than 75,000 ex-fighters, including about 7,000 child soldiers; assisted in holding national and local government elections, which enabled people to participate in decisions that affected their daily lives; helped to rebuild the country's police force to its pre-war strength and contributed

towards rehabilitating the infrastructure and bringing government services to local communities.

The UN also helped the government stop illicit trading in diamonds and regulate the industry. During the war, rebels had used money from "blood" or "conflict" diamonds to buy weapons which then fuelled the conflict. Now diamonds have become an engine of growth, with government income from diamonds soaring from just \$10 million in 2000 to \$160 million in 2004, according to the International Monetary Fund figures.

UNAMSIL was not always foreseen to succeed: at one point, in May 2000, the mission nearly collapsed when the rebel Revolutionary United Front (RUF) kidnapped hundreds of peacekeepers and renounced the ceasefire in a move that endangered the credibility of UN peacekeeping. Outraged by the chaos that followed, the international community put pressure on the rebels to obey the ceasefire and slapped sanctions against RUF sponsors. Subsequently, UNAMSIL launched new mediation efforts and brought the two

adversaries back to the negotiation table. It brought in more troops to monitor the ceasefire and began disarming fighters from both sides. The United Kingdom, which had sent a force to restore peace following RUF's breach of the ceasefire, later started restructuring the army while UNAMSIL and other international partners concentrated on training the local police force.

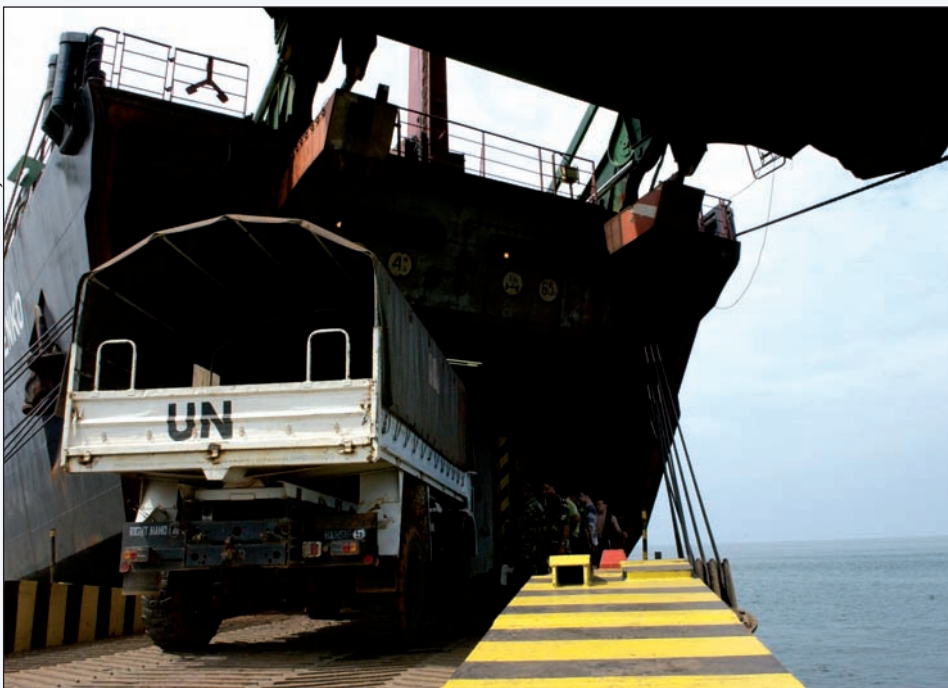
UNAMSIL's withdrawal marked the completion of most of the tasks assigned it by the Security Council. The mission assisted the voluntary return of more than half a million refugees and internally displaced persons. It helped the government restore its authority and social services in areas previously controlled by rebels, recruited and trained about 4,000 police personnel with the help of a team of officers from Commonwealth countries, and constructed and renovated dozens of police stations. Meanwhile, the UK continued to assist the government restructure the army.

UNAMSIL monitored and trained dozens of Sierra Leoneans in human rights and was instrumental in setting up the Special Court for Sierra Leone to try those most responsible for war crimes. The mission also assisted the government in setting up a Truth and Reconciliation Commission, tasked with healing the wounds of war by bringing together perpetrators and victims of atrocities.

Working together with UN agencies, the mission launched quick-impact and income-generating projects to provide jobs to thousands of unemployed youths and ex-fighters and basic services to local communities. UNAMSIL troops reconstructed schools and clinics, launched and funded agricultural projects and sponsored free medical clinics in far-flung areas.

As a sign of continued international community confidence in the future of

UNAMSIL Photo by Eric Kanalstein



Vehicles are loaded onto the Ukrainian freighter "Kataryn Zelenko," departing Sierra Leone – 12 October 2005

Sierra Leone, donors pledged \$800 million in aid at a conference held in London in November to raise money for development. Economic revival is also being boosted by returning refugees and other displaced persons eager to rebuild their communities. Former ghost towns like Kono and Tongo Fields are now havens of commercial activities, as diamond-producing areas attract thousands of young people. Since 2002, the economy has expanded at an average of about 7 per cent, and the IMF predicts future growth of 6-7 per cent per year if the political and economic situation remains stable.

Despite the optimism over the gains UNAMSIL has brought, Sierra Leone still faces many challenges: the country remains fragile, and as the Truth and Reconciliation Commission warned, it has to take concrete steps to address the root causes of the conflict and cultivate a culture of human rights in order for peace to be sustainable. The economy is heavily dependent on donor funds. A disproportionate share of income from diamond mining still finds its way into private hands, rather than Government coffers. Despite ongoing reintegration programmes, thousands of ex-combatants and youths – many of whom never went to school – are unemployed. In short, the peace has yet to produce tangible economic dividends and social benefits for the majority of the country's 4.8 million people.

To help meet these challenges, the newly created UN Integrated Office for Sierra Leone (UNIOSIL) was to take over from UNAMSIL beginning in January 2006. Its mandate is to cement UNAMSIL's gains. The new office will help the Government strengthen human rights, realize the Millennium Development Goals, improve transparency and hold free and fair elections in 2007. It will also work together with other UN agencies and missions in the sub-region and provide security for the Special Court. ■

Liberia: Elections mark historic turning point



UNMIL Photo by Eric Kamalstein

Liberians count ballots after polls closed, Monrovia, Liberia, 10 November 2005

Liberians made history in November when they voted into office Africa's first elected woman head of state, Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf, under the watchful eye of UN peacekeepers. The elections, described by international observers as generally free and fair, marked an important landmark in the struggle for peace in this war-ravaged country as people opted for ballots over bullets.

The 11 October national elections and the subsequent presidential run-off on 8 November, which pitted Johnson-Sirleaf, a former World Bank economist and George Weah, a one-time FIFA International Footballer of the Year, were the result of a peace process that began with the signing of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement in August 2003, bringing to an end a 14-year civil war that had turned a once prosperous country into one of the world's poorest.

Voter turnout was overwhelming. In the first round, 75 percent of the 1.35 million registered voters showed up at the polls, with the figure dropping slightly in the run-off presidential elections, which Johnson-Sirleaf won con-

vincingly, taking 60 per cent of the total votes cast. The huge voter turnout was a rousing testimony to the people's desire for peace and an end to the cycle of violence and instability.

The UN Mission in Liberia (UNMIL), with a 15,000-strong peacekeeping force, played a critical role in all facets of the elections. It provided the National Elections Commission (NEC), which conducted the elections, with technical advice and gave extensive logistical assistance, which enabled the NEC to cover all parts of the country in the face of a destroyed infrastructure and virtually no means of communication. UNMIL provided security throughout the elections process. Despite security concerns as well as lack of accommodation and office space in areas where electoral staff were deployed, UNMIL gradually overcame these difficulties, setting up electoral offices throughout the country.

Due to the high illiteracy rate in the country, the next major challenge was educating the electorate on registering to vote and then on voting in the elections. Civic educators fanned out to

all parts of the country equipped with flip charts, flyers and posters explaining the voting process. So did cultural groups (musicians, dancers and comedians), entertaining village and townspeople while at the same time conveying crucial messages. Sporting events organized by UNMIL, especially football matches, and major musical concerts with artists from Liberia and neighbouring countries attracted large crowds, offering a perfect setting for passing on critical messages. UNMIL distributed thousands of T-shirts, flyers and posters depicting election messages.

Throughout the process, the Mission's 24-hour radio station filled Liberia's airwaves with information and educational messages, galvanizing the population to welcome the elections as an opportunity to chart a new course for the country. Skits, drama performances, live audience and magazine shows, talks and discussions as well as features and documentaries were among the daily fare.

Despite the numerous challenges faced by electoral officials, the registration exercise was completed with a record 1.35 million voters, half of whom were women, out of a population of an estimated 3 million. They included more than 61,000 internally displaced persons.

For the elections, UNMIL hired and trained thousands of Liberian poll workers as crowd controllers, identification officers, ballot paper issuers, ballot box controllers and ink providers to assist at the 3,070 polling places scattered across the country. It was a daunting task, made more challenging by the high illiteracy rate, particularly in rural areas.

UNMIL's peacekeepers helped move election materials to polling places across the country by truck, helicopter and even ship to coastal areas that could not be reached by land. In some areas, porters carried ballots for miles in wheel barrows. The peacekeepers,

along with the Mission's police officers and the local police force trained by UNMIL, also kept round-the-clock vigil to maintain a secure environment on the election days.

On 11 October, voters began queuing as early as 2 a.m. to cast their ballots at polling stations set up in churches, schools, dilapidated public buildings and even tents and rural huts. Some carried benches to sit on and umbrellas to shield themselves from rain and sun. Queues spilled out of the voting precincts winding through streets. More than 3,500 national and 421 international observers, including former US President Jimmy Carter, who monitored Liberia's first post-war elections, endorsed the exercise as free and fair.

"At all polling places I visited, I was struck by the patience, the determination, and the friendliness displayed by all Liberians as they set about exercising this most precious right and responsibility," said Alan Doss, head of UNMIL and UN Secretary-General's Special

Representative, after visiting polling stations across the country.

By ushering in participatory democracy through free and fair elections, Liberia has turned a new page in its history. For a country that has known only war for a long time, this was an extraordinary political breakthrough, and a tribute to the international rescue operation led by the UN.

However, the economic challenges in 2006 facing Liberians are enormous. The national budget has shrunk to a fraction of its pre-war levels. Liberia owes about \$3 billion in foreign debt. Four in five Liberians are unemployed. The infrastructure is so badly damaged that even the capital Monrovia has had no piped water or electricity for more than a decade. It will take huge international investments to rebuild the country. And no one appreciates the magnitude of the problem more than its newly elected leader, who spent most of her career helping other countries develop their economies. Her country is now in urgent need of her experience. ■



Villagers read instructional material during pre-election sensitization, Madikoma, Liberia, 16 September 2005

UNMIL Photo by Eric Kandstein

Burundi: A major breakthrough in peacekeeping

The UN's work in Burundi in 2005 may be considered a success in peacekeeping and a vital demonstration of the importance of strong and sustained international support for a nascent post-conflict democracy. Established in June 2004 to support a political transition to an era of democracy and national reconciliation, the UN Operation in Burundi (ONUB) in 2005 conducted intense electoral assistance activities culminating in the presidential election of 19 August.

An ambitious electoral timetable was drawn up by the Independent National Electoral Commission at the request of the Great Lakes Regional Peace Initiative on Burundi, a group of mediators which includes, among others, Uganda, Tanzania, Rwanda and the Democratic Republic of the Congo. The Burundian electoral marathon comprised six separate elections over a period of seven months, beginning with a constitutional referendum in February and ending in September with elections at the village level.

During the period of elections, ONUB provided support for the electoral process in the form of logistics, transport of ballot boxes and papers throughout the country, and voter education through public information activities.

While the western part of the country continued to be affected by repeated attacks by the Palipehutu-FNL (Forces de Liberation Nationale) rebels, the UN helped with the organization of the first elections since 1993. After twelve years of civil war which caused great suffering, the population was determined to participate and turned out massively in February, voting overwhelmingly in favour of the post-transition constitution. Out of 3.3 million registered voters, 92 per cent exercised their civil right, with 90 per cent casting a "yes" vote.



UN Photo by Martine Perret

CNDD-FDD man surrendering his weapons to the UN registration desk, near Macamba, Burundi, 3 February 2005

Three months later, on 3 June, voters again turned out in large numbers, giving a landslide victory to Pierre Nkurunziza's Conseil National pour la Défense de la Démocratie-Forces pour la Défense de la Démocratie (CNDD-FDD) in the communal elections, which won 93 of the 129 communes.

On 4 July, voters once again went to the polls to elect members of the National Assembly. On 29 July, an electoral college of commune and provincial councils indirectly elected members of the Senate. Lawmakers were also selected in order to ensure a balance in the gender and ethnic representation in the Parliament, as required under the constitution. Four of the country's former heads of state, and representatives from the Hutu, Tutsi and Twa ethnic communities were amongst the selected senators.

On 19 August, a joint session of members of the National Assembly and the Senate overwhelmingly elected Pierre Nkurunziza of the CNDD-FDD as the

new President of Burundi. The last in the series of elections was conducted at the village level in September.

The success of the peace process led to an influx of some 55,000 Burundian refugees in 2005 – mainly from Tanzania, and thousands of internally displaced persons also returned to their communities of origin. UN agencies made significant contributions to help the country address this new challenge. The UN refugee agency, UNHCR, supported the returns and rehabilitated and built schools, houses and health centres.

The UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) provided assistance such as stationery to schools; the World Food Programme (WFP) opened school canteens, continued food-for-work projects and provided food aid to vulnerable populations in the northern provinces, where there were food shortages.

ONUB's activities have included: supporting the disarmament and demobi-

lization of combatants; protection of human rights and strengthening the police and judiciary. Through its quick impact projects, the mission has addressed some local needs by building community centres and schools and providing assistance to needy children and former child soldiers.

With the establishment of a democratically-elected Government, ONUB's mandate is to change during 2006. A gradual withdrawal of peacekeepers, which began in December, is expected to continue. However, nationwide peace continues to be elusive, since the Palipehutu-FNL rebel group had yet to agree to a ceasefire and to commence peace talks.

Meanwhile, the new Government has to grapple with the daunting tasks of rebuilding an economy left in shambles by the decade-long, war and reconciling ethnic communities torn apart by the fratricidal conflict and deep-rooted mistrust.

It must work to integrate the country's economic and social fabric, resettle the massive influx of refugees encouraged to return home by the prospects of peace, provide employment to former combatants and *gardiens de la paix*, and find resources to deliver on the promise of free primary education for all.

Most of these challenges can be met only with the continued assistance of the international community. To consolidate the gains of the peace process, ONUB will continue working closely with the new government, focusing its activities on promoting human rights and helping to establish a National Truth and Reconciliation Commission, a vital step in the promoting national reconciliation.

It will also help train the national police force and assist security sector reform. The Burundi Partners Forum will also play an important role in mobilizing international support for Burundi's nascent democracy. ■

Haiti: MINUSTAH prepares for overdue elections

Despite progress achieved in preparing for elections and in establishing a safe and secure environment, the Transitional Government and the UN Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH) were confronted with serious political and security challenges during 2005. State institutions remained generally weak; and lack of resources continued to hinder local authorities from functioning smoothly, with negative effects on the State's credibility. In some areas, disbanded local authorities remained in place, and violence by criminal gangs continued.

While throughout the year electoral preparations were faced with substantial technical difficulties and several postponements of the election dates, the registration of parties, candidates and voters included a relatively wide range of Haitian political opinion. This enhanced the credibility of the electoral process and the possibilities for a broad debate regarding the future of Haiti.

Remarkably, the registration of voters was a resounding success. Over a period stretching for five months, more than 3.5

million Haitians, out of an estimated maximum 4.5 million eligible voters, registered to vote in the elections at the 450 centres established nationwide, including in the slum of Cité Soleil.

The registration of 35 presidential candidates and 42 political parties gives an idea of the breadth of the Haitian political spectrum. Their participation in the electoral process symbolised the commitment by a majority of Haitians to take part in the democratic process. Recognizing the importance of dialogue among different political parties, MINUSTAH succeeded in getting political parties to agree on codes of conduct against corruption and not to use violence for political purposes.

The Provisional Electoral Council announced in late November that it was again postponing the country's first elections since President Jean-Bertrand Aristide was forced out of office in February 2004. The Council called for presidential and legislative elections, to be held in early 2006, to be



MINUSTAH's Office of Public Information and the Electoral Assistance Section hold a session at the Petionville High School for teenagers in order to introduce and discuss the upcoming elections. Students read pamphlets describing MINUSTAH's role in Haiti, 11 December 2005

UN Photo by Sophia Paris

followed by a possible run-off in February and local and municipal elections in March. The Prime Minister announced that the Transitional Government would resign on 7 February, but would carry out ongoing business until the naming of a new Prime Minister [elections were held on 7 February, 2006].

The different postponements in the electoral calendar were the result an array of factors ranging from the crumbling infrastructure in the country to the weaknesses of the Provisional Electoral Council (CEP). The latter, however, were largely addressed through the appointment in October of a Director-General and the adoption of a decree spelling out the division of responsibilities within it.

Throughout 2005, MINUSTAH was providing extensive logistical and technical assistance to the CEP in organizing the elections with a view to ensure the credibility of the process. By the end of the year, the mission had deployed dozens of senior trainers in the provinces to train 1,325 electoral agents and 809 polling station supervisors. The electoral agents, in turn, were expected to train over 37,000 polling station personnel.

Hundreds of electoral observers from different international organizations and countries had started arriving in Haiti, expecting to contribute to the conduct of free and fair elections. Their presence, alongside local election observers, was to help to prevent, report and correct election irregularities, particularly given concerns over possible links between political parties and armed groups, questions over the independence of electoral workers, and other technical issues which could impede voter access and the transparency of the voting and counting processes.

Inside the country, the overall security situation also improved, despite gang violence that continued to threaten the public in many areas. While outside



UN Photo by Sophia Paris

MINUSTAH Public Information staff interviewing a local resident of Cite Soleil, Haiti, 30 November 2005

Port-au-Prince the security situation became relatively calm following MINUSTAH operations, the situation in the capital remained fragile.

Kidnappings surged in Port-au-Prince during the spring and became a major source of income, affecting victims of all ages and economic backgrounds, despite several operations by MINUSTAH and the Haitian National Police to arrest suspected kidnappers and free their victims.

The lack of strong and professional rule of law institutions remain one of the biggest challenges facing Haiti.

To counter the violence, MINUSTAH reinforced its troop numbers to its authorized strength of 6,700 and later in the year to almost 7,500, following a Security Council decision to increase the number of peacekeepers in view of the many security threats linked to the electoral process.

Over the summer, the situation in Port-au-Prince improved substantially in the Bel-Air area, where MINUSTAH and the Haitian National Police (HNP) established a permanent security presence. However, the slum of

Cité Soleil, another hotspot in the capital, continued to pose a serious security threat, and several peacekeepers were killed or wounded in shooting incidents over the course of the year.

The HNP remained weak despite MINUSTAH's efforts to reform and restructure the force. Of particular concern was the pattern of alleged serious misconduct of HNP officers, including their alleged involvement in the summary execution of at least nine people on 20 August at a football game in Port-au-Prince.

In addition to political and security problems, Haiti also continued to face economic catastrophe. Massive unemployment, a high illiteracy rate and a destroyed infrastructure have combined to make Haiti one of the poorest countries in the world.

There is no doubt Haiti was at a critical juncture at the end of the year. High voter registration, however, and the presence of candidates representing a broad range of opinion had improved the prospects for credible elections in early 2006. MINUSTAH made progress in handling urgent security threats. Nevertheless, the gains remained fragile. ■

Côte d'Ivoire: Peace efforts move on despite a succession of delays

The UN and its partners in the international community continued efforts to move Côte d'Ivoire's peace process forward, encourage the parties to the conflict to reach a negotiated agreement, avoid violence and end the three-year-old conflict in the West African nation.

A May 2003 ceasefire monitored by the UN Operation in Côte d'Ivoire (UNOCI) and the French Licorne forces, continued to hold, with no major violations of the UN-imposed arms embargo. However, the target dates by which combatants were to be disarmed, demobilized and reintegrated into society were not met, nor was the deadline for a presidential election, which constitutionally, should have been held by 30 October 2005. The country remained divided. The Forces

Nouvelles former rebel movement retained control over the north of the country, while the south remained under governmental control. UN peacekeepers and French forces maintained peace along the Zone of Confidence separating the two sides.

In June, the Security Council authorized an increase in UNOCI's military strength by 850 troops, bringing the Mission's military strength to just over 7,000. It also raised the number of UN police officers to 725.

A sign of hope emerged in April when the Ivorian parties, at a meeting convened by South Africa's President Thabo Mbeki, the African Union mediator, signed the Pretoria Agreement, which addressed a number of con-

tentious issues on elections and disarmament. Under the accord, the two sides agreed not to veto the presidential candidates put forward by the signatories of the Linas-Marcoussis Accord, of January 2003. The Pretoria Agreement also included a timetable to disarm the former rebels and dismantle pro-government militias.

The Pretoria Agreement breathed new momentum into the peace process, and both former rebel and government forces withdrew heavy weapons from the frontline on each side of the Zone of Confidence. However, the momentum was, short-lived. In June, the Forces Nouvelles announced that it would not disarm until pro-government militias laid down their weapons, thus delaying the peace process. A new



UN Photo by Ky Chung

Ivorian police cadets respond to commands at the inauguration ceremony of their new training centre. These police officers will provide security at DDR sites during the disarmament process, 5 August 2005

timetable for disarmament was set when the two sides met again in Pretoria in June and approved an agreement urging international sanctions against anyone obstructing peace. However, once again the parties failed to implement the provisions of the Pretoria Agreement.

By September, it had become clear that elections could not be held by the end of October 2005 as scheduled. Combatants had not disarmed; the registration of voters had been held up and the country was still divided. As the deadline approached, new disagreements emerged over presidential decrees and the work and composition of the Independent Electoral Commission.

With a missed electoral deadline and the threat of a constitutional vacuum looming, leaders of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and the AU agreed to extend President Laurent Gbagbo's term of office for a year. Significant powers would be entrusted to a Prime Minister – acceptable to all parties – who would oversee a power-sharing government and the transition to fresh elections by October 2006. ECOWAS and the AU also created two new bodies, the International Working Group and a Mediation Group to oversee the peace process, with both bodies co-chaired by the UN Special Representative in Côte d'Ivoire. The Security Council endorsed these decisions in October.

The International Working Group was established to evaluate and monitor the peace process and to ensure that all Ivorian parties respect their commitments. The group also was to act as a guarantor and impartial arbitrator of the peace and reconciliation process leading to elections before 31 October 2006. In early December, the Chairperson of the African Union, President Olusegun Obasanjo of Nigeria; the Chairperson of ECOWAS, President Mamadou Tandja of Niger; and the African Union Mediator, President Mbeki brokered the appointment of Charles Konan Banny, the governor of the Central



UN Photo by Ky Chung

Ivorian reggae star Alpha Blondy becomes UNOCI's first Musician for Peace and accepts his nomination at a ceremony marking the fourth International Day of Peace, Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, 21 September 2005

Bank for West African States, as the new Prime Minister.

The Ivorian crisis has affected the population in many ways: thousands lost their jobs, poverty deepened, political violence spread, and social cohesion has been disrupted. UNOCI documented human rights abuses by armed individuals, groups and forces throughout the country.

Continuing ethnic clashes limited UNOCI's capacity to help. Violence in government-controlled areas in the villages of Guitrozon and Petit Duékoué led to restrictions on UNOCI's freedom of movement. Pro-government supporters barred UN peacekeepers and Licorne forces from entering some villages and towns, thus hampering their operations. In July the obstructions spread to the south after unidentified assailants attacked the towns of Agboville and Anyama, sparking fears that the peace process might unravel. The Forces Nouvelles also restricted the movement of peacekeepers in areas under its control.

In the latter months of 2005, a number of senior UN officials visited Côte d'Ivoire, each time highlighting the

need to resolve the crisis. UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, Louise Arbour, visited in July and called for an end to the reign of terror, fuelled by impunity, by both sides. During her visit, UN Deputy Secretary-General, Louis Frechette, raised awareness of sexual exploitation and abuse, while the chairman of the UN Sanctions Committee on Côte d'Ivoire, Adamantios Vassilakis, warned leaders that sanctions would be imposed against anyone obstructing the peace process. The Special Adviser of the Secretary-General for the Prevention of Genocide Juan Mendes, also visited Côte d'Ivoire and expressed concern that ongoing tensions could lead to further serious human rights violations.

Despite setbacks in the Ivorian peace process in 2005, optimism remained that Côte d'Ivoire's new roadmap – drawn up by the International Working Group – would move the country out of the current impasse of no-war-no-peace and result in the disarmament of combatants, dismantlement of militias, restoration of State authority throughout the country, and, ultimately, to the holding of national elections by October 2006. ■

Sudan: New mission deploys, provides assistance to the African Union in Darfur

Three important events dominated the political landscape of Sudan in 2005: the signing of the historic Comprehensive Peace Agreement, ending a 21-year civil war in the southern Sudan between the Government and the Sudan Peoples' Liberation Movement/Army (SPLM/A); the establishment of the UN Mission in Sudan (UNMIS) to assist in implementing the Agreement; and the unexpected death of SPLM/A leader John Garang, three weeks after he was sworn in as Sudan's First Vice President.

The news of Garang's death in a helicopter crash on 30 July sparked off violent riots that left dozens of people dead and destroyed property in Khartoum and several other areas including Juba and Malakal in southern Sudan. The riots threatened to undo not only the gains made since the signing of the peace accord in January, but also the stability of the Government. The SPLM moved swiftly to confirm Salva Kiir as Garang's successor, and as stipulated in the peace accord, he also became Sudan's First Vice President and President of the semi-autonomous government of Southern Sudan.

Under the terms of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement, the South will be autonomous for six years after which it will hold a referendum to decide whether to secede or remain under a unitary state. Oil revenues and other resources will be shared equally between the Government and the South. The political system of the Khartoum government will be restructured on principles of democracy and respect for human rights. And the two armies will merge if the South decides against secession in six years. These are no doubt enormous challenges that will require full mobilization of the institutional capacity, human resources and political will by both parties.

A Government of National Unity finally took office on 22 September, after

delays in implementing the Peace Agreement caused by Garang's death and disagreements over the allocation of cabinet posts between the Government and the SPLM. In December, the Government of Southern Sudan was established after the adoption of the interim constitution of Southern Sudan.

The establishment of the Government of National Unity and positive developments in Southern Sudan despite Garang's death gave momentum to the implementation of the peace accord. Yet, UNMIS faced mounting challenges in launching such a large and complex operation in a country roughly the size of Western Europe, and as of 13 December, it had deployed about 4,300 military personnel out of its authorized strength of 10,000 troops.

While UNMIS worked to increase its peacekeeping presence in Sudan, the mission also started, along with UN agencies, assisting the country to resolve ongoing conflicts, promoting social reconciliation and encouraging dialogue as well as identifying the needs of the new Government. The UN and

its international partners agreed to provide technical support to help in setting up key commissions to assist with the implementation of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement. In August, the Government set up the Ceasefire Political Commission to supervise, monitor and oversee implementation of the Agreement, as well as to provide a political forum for discussions between the parties and the international community.

UNMIS was also providing good offices and political support to the numerous efforts being made to resolve the ongoing conflicts in the country. The Sudanese Government, with the support of UNMIS, UNDP and UNICEF, was finalizing plans to disarm, demobilize and reintegrate combatants under a programme tailored to pay special attention to the needs of child soldiers, women and the disabled associated with the various armed groups. There has also been a steady flow of funds for the disarmament programme from several donor countries.

The Comprehensive Peace Agreement, however, did little to ease the crisis in



Peacekeepers from Bangladesh busy with road construction work in Juba, Sudan, 18 July 2005.

UNMIS Photo by John Charles

the Darfur region where two local rebel groups, the Justice and Equality Movement and the Sudanese Liberation Movement/Army, were still fighting Government forces and allied militia groups. The rebels took up arms in 2003, claiming neglect and marginalization in the country's political and economic life. Mass killings, attacks on villages and rapes had left tens of thousands of people dead and more than 2 million fled their homes into refugee camps in Darfur and neighbouring Chad.

Outraged by the continued killings and mass displacement of whole villages, the African Union Mission in Sudan (AMIS), supported by logistics from the UN and funds from the European Union, the United States, NATO and other donors, increased its deployment of ceasefire monitors to more than 6,300 troops to help end the crisis in Darfur. UNMIS assisted the AU monitors in planning and providing technical advice through the UN Assistance Cell to the AU, based in

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The UN was also working closely with other international partners to facilitate the AU Commission's efforts to get resources and other needs for AMIS.

In addition to monitoring the fragile ceasefire in the Darfur region, the AU also stepped up efforts to broker a deal to end the fighting between the rebel groups. However, despite several rounds of talks in Abuja, Nigeria, a solution remained elusive as divisions within the rebels widened. To give backing to the AU's mediation efforts, UNMIS met with political and military commanders of both armed movements to encourage political flexibility in the negotiations and greater political will to reach an agreement at the Abuja talks. UNMIS has also been supporting the reconciliation process in Darfur by maintaining contacts with local civil society groups and encouraging them to support the Abuja negotiations. As part of the reconciliation drive, UNDP and academic institutions in Darfur have been run-

ning a series of seminars on the rule of law and on conflict resolution. However, in late 2005, the situation in Darfur has become more complex with the proliferation of armed groups and bandits and the entry of Chadian rebels and army deserters assembling in Darfur to attack Chad.

As 2005 came to an end, the Government of National Unity continued to face several challenges. It had to end conflicts in the east, south and west of the country, particularly the ongoing instability in Darfur, which remained a threat to the overall security situation in Sudan and the region. Both parties to the peace accord would need to show the necessary political will required to implement the Comprehensive Peace Agreement, as they were already falling behind schedule in meeting its timetable. Sudan also faced serious challenges in delivering the dividends of peace that would convince its people, particularly the Southerners, of the merits of peace and unity. ■

DR Congo: Robust posture hastens political process

In 2005, the UN Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUC) took a series of important steps in supporting the country's transitional political process and changing the overall scope of UN peacekeeping.

With an authorized strength of 16,700 uniformed personnel under Security Council resolution 1565, the mission began the year with the establishment of the first multinational divisional headquarters in UN peacekeeping history. (Most peacekeeping missions operate as a single division.) Based in the north central city of Kisangani, MONUC's Eastern Division began operations in February, overseeing a brigade with four battalions in Ituri District, and two more brigades in the two Kivu provinces.

MONUC's Divisional Headquarters in the troubled region of Ituri carried out

a pilot disarmament and community reintegration programme, which the DRC Transitional Government had launched in late 2004 in conjunction

with MONUC and UNDP. By mid-April, some 15,000 militiamen had been disarmed and 7,000 weapons recovered. To support the stabilization



MONUC Photo

First training and deployment of the integrated brigade of the Armed Forces of Congo, crossing the river into Lituri, Kisangani, DR Congo, 29 November 2005

and continue applying pressure on the estimated 2,000-strong remnants of Ituri armed groups, MONUC subsequently created the Ituri Task Force of UN peacekeepers and the Congolese army, Forces Armées de la République Démocratique du Congo (FARDC), with the capacity to conduct “robust” peace operations anywhere in the district.

The creation of a fully-fledged army and police force was among the DRC's most pressing needs. In 2005, MONUC trained six army brigades and 18,000 Congolese police officers. The first phase of integrating the new army was completed at the year's end with the deployment of the sixth integrated FARDC brigade.

In a partial victory for the peace process, on 31 March, the Rwandan Hutu insurgent group, the Democratic Forces for the Liberation of Rwanda (FDLR), which had been operating in the Kivus, denounced the 1994 Rwandan genocide and pledged to return home peacefully. MONUC swiftly set up six assembly areas in the Kivus, but FDLR members did not surrender in significant numbers. In June, the FDLR leadership subsequently split, delaying the full repatriation of the rebels to Rwanda.

At the end of June, the Transitional Government announced its intention to forcibly disarm FDLR combatants operating in the east. Using its mandate to protect civilians, MONUC peacekeepers and government forces launched a series of joint robust military operations that attempted to flush out the rebels and clear their camps. These operations while achieving some impressive results, did not complete the full repatriation of the foreign armed groups. At several points throughout the year, intensified action by MONUC peacekeepers in Ituri and the Kivus drew retaliatory fire from would-be spoilers and hostile combatants. Thirteen blue helmets were killed in combat in 2005, while dozens of others suffered injuries. The most deadly incident happened on 25 February when nine MONUC peacekeepers from



MONUC Moroccan contingent doctors treat refugees in Che, Ituri after they fled their homes due to violent militia fighting 4 February 2005.

Bangladesh, who were on a routine foot patrol to protect a camp of some 8,000 internally displaced persons, were killed in a well-planned and coordinated ambush at Kafé, some 80 kilometers north of Bunia on Lake Albert.

MONUC's strong mandate coupled with a high level of international support facilitated in 2005 what would have seemed impossible just a few years earlier: more than 24 million Congolese registered to vote. Between June and December, MONUC provided the country's Independent Electoral Commission with logistical, technical and advisory expertise. Voter registration kits were distributed to 9,000 registration centres throughout even the most remote corners of the DRC, a country the size of Western Europe. Some materials were even transported by canoe. The commitment of MONUC troops further allayed widespread fears that internal strife and violence would derail the registration. In Ituri, almost 90 percent of the electorate registered, while seven out of the DRC's 11 provinces completed the registration process. Significantly also on 18 and 19

December, polling for the constitutional referendum took place in the absence of serious security incidents, marking a turning point in the history of the country, as it represented the first opportunity for the Congolese people to choose their system of governance in over 40 years.

While peacekeepers ensured safety where they were deployed on the ground, MONUC aviation set new safety records in the sky. The DRC is a vast country with its infrastructure virtually destroyed, and almost all key logistical transport is by air. On 18 October, when MONUC marked its sixth anniversary, the mission had recorded 130,000 hours of safe operations, yet another milestone in UN peacekeeping. With a fleet of 68 aircraft operating from more than 60 airports and airfields, MONUC aviation came to rival commercial carriers and overtook them to become Africa's largest airline. Furthermore, this infrastructure proved indispensable in the transport of electoral kits, cargo and personnel in support of the organization of elections scheduled for 2006.

In the area of mission support and reform, MONUC took the lead

through its implementation of an “integrated mission” concept. Diverse members of the UN family present in the DRC operated in tandem to achieve such results as the repatriation of Congolese refugees from Tanzania and the production of cross-cutting videos and radio programmes designed to educate Congolese citizens while mobilizing funds from the international community.

MONUC meanwhile set a tangible example for future peacekeeping operations with the opening on 1 March of the Office for Addressing Sexual Abuse and Exploitation, the first of its kind in a peacekeeping mission. Eleven staff members worked on policy development, training, and advocacy, and also investigated some 100 civilian and military cases over a six-month period. The efforts of the office resulted in a total of 38 repatriations, dismissals and criminal charges for severe misconduct.

Also, in 2005, Radio Okapi, the joint radio project launched in 2002 by MONUC Public Information and Foundation Hirondelle, a Swiss non-governmental organization, became the largest national radio network not only in the DRC but also in the history of UN peacekeeping. Broadcasting in both FM and shortwave transmission, Radio Okapi’s listenership skyrocketed in all of country’s provinces, including in the capital Kinshasa. As the electoral calendar unfolds in 2006, the radio network, with its credibility established as the “voice of MONUC”, will serve as a key tool in helping validate the democratic electoral process and poll results even in the most isolated corners of the country.

During 2005 MONUC made considerable advances towards meeting its core objectives. Its partners remained optimistic that in 2006, the DRC’s first independent elections in more than 40 years would yield sustainable peace and security, while also attempting to address the war’s legacy through tangible humanitarian and economic development. ■

Kosovo: Status talks get underway

On 24 October, the UN Security Council provided the green light to initiate the process to determine the future status of the ethnically-divided Kosovo. The process began in December under the leadership of Martti Ahtisaari, the UN Special Envoy, thus marking the culmination of a political process lasting six years and signalling, the beginning of the next phase of the life of the UN Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK).

Over the past four years, UNMIK has attempted to implement policy according to the formula “Standards for Kosovo”, more generally known as “standards before status.” Under this arrangement, Kosovo was expected to develop stable democratic institutions under UNMIK administration before any decision could be made on its future status. The standards include promoting human rights, establishing the rule of law and protecting minority rights.

The task was clearly huge, and progress of the fledgling institutions of Kosovo had been inconsistent. However, despite frustration on the part of the majority Kosovo Albanians over lack of progress toward their ultimate goal of independence, there have been some positive developments over the past year. Significant steps have been taken in meeting the “standards”. Whereas security improved, implementation in the area of rule of law was inconsistent. Progress has been particularly slow in the protection of minority rights and return of internally displaced persons.

In October, Ambassador Kai Eide, who was appointed by the UN Secretary-General to review the situation in Kosovo, noted that progress in meeting the standards had been uneven. However, he recommended starting the process leading to the determination of Kosovo’s future status. He cau-

tioned though that “standards” and “status” were not the be-all and end-all of the political process leading to genuine protection of minority rights by the majority population. The Norwegian diplomat warned that political life in Kosovo could not be consumed entirely by status talks, vital as they would be. There was a huge amount of work to be done even as talks proceeded, he emphasized.

Meanwhile, in September, UNMIK started working on six priority areas: continued implementation of the standards, a comprehensive reform of local government, improving security, building local capacity, maintaining a safe and secure environment and restructuring the mission itself.

Progress was already evident in some areas. UNMIK has drawn up a plan to restructure its presence in Kosovo. It initiated informal, technical-level talks with the European Union and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe on contingency planning for possible future arrangements for their involvement in Kosovo following the determination of its future status. The mission started discussions with all Kosovo communities on their future security arrangements. By the end of 2005, the mission will commence the transfer of some police and justice responsibilities from UNMIK to the new ministries of interior and justice. The transfer of police station management was completed, with all 33 police stations and five of the six regional police headquarters being run by Kosovans at the end of 2005.

While the duration and eventual outcome of status talks remained as yet uncertain, the Security Council decision meant that UNMIK had started down the road which will eventually see it join growing group of successful peacekeeping missions. ■

Ethiopia-Eritrea: Political stalemate continues amid rising tension

The year 2005 saw the stalemate in the Ethiopia-Eritrea peace process becoming more entrenched, and the possibility of an outbreak of war increased as the year came to a close. Though the leadership of UNMEE continued to engage all stakeholders in the peace process in an effort to resolve the deadlock, the two parties remained as polarised as ever. Sustained efforts by the international community to convince Eritrea to engage Ethiopia in dialogue were also in vain. While Ethiopia continued to reject significant parts of the decision of the Eritrea-Ethiopia Boundary Commission (EEBC), Eritrea maintained its rejection of the Five-Point Peace Plan that Ethiopia announced in November 2004.

Two factors further worsened the tension. First, Ethiopia moved its armed forces closer to the Temporary Security Zone (TSZ), between December 2004 and early 2005. Although Ethiopia insisted the change was largely defensive, Eritrea viewed this as an aggressive stance. Ethiopia did not heed Security Council calls to reverse its decision. Then, on 5 October, Eritrea imposed a ban on all UNMEE helicopter flights in its airspace, as well as many night-time patrols by the Mission's vehicles inside the TSZ. The Government said the ban was needed to protect its territory, but the move generated suspicion within the international community – and more so in Ethiopia – as to Eritrea's real intentions.

The helicopter ban immediately reduced the Mission's ability to monitor and observe developments in the TSZ and its capability to warn the international community of any impending danger. In addition, the ban endangered the safety of UNMEE peacekeepers deployed along the TSZ, as it meant that in the event of accidents, medical evacuations by air

were also not possible. UNMEE, joined by the UN Security Council and the Secretary-General, among others, made urgent appeals, in vain, to the Eritrean Government to lift the ban immediately.

In November, the Security Council demanded that Eritrea lift all its restrictions imposed on UNMEE and urged both parties to exercise maximum restraint and to return to the status that existed in December 2004, within 30 days. On 6 December, the Eritrean Government requested that UNMEE staff with nationalities from the US, Canada, Europe and the Russian Federation leave Eritrea within 10 days, a decision which was strongly condemned by the UN. In a statement, the Secretary-General stressed that Eritrea's decision contravened its obligations under the Charter and the fundamental principles of UN peacekeeping.

The helicopter ban forced UNMEE to relocate some of its deployment sites for the safety of peacekeepers and to avoid logistical problems. The deepening stalemate and continued restrictions imposed on UNMEE also forced the Security Council to authorise UNMEE to temporarily relocate some of its personnel from Eritrea to Ethiopia, an operation which was carried out in December.

These difficulties notwithstanding, the Mission continued to focus its work on other important areas. For example, in 2005, UNMEE's humanitarian component began to advocate a more coordinated approach towards the implementation of the quick impact projects, the HIV/AIDS programme, sexual exploitation and abuse training, as well as the inclusion of gender view points in its work. A forum met regularly to coordinate work, exchange information and implement projects. As a

result of its initiatives, the forum took steps to improve management of quick-impact projects, speed up their adoption and get Mission funds with minimum delays.

UNMEE, in collaboration with the International Committee of the Red Cross and the office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, continued to monitor and report human rights cases involving vulnerable groups such as children and women, especially abductions, disappearances and border crossing in the TSZ and surrounding areas.



Deminers of the Bangladeshi Contingent hard at work as part of UNMEE's Integrated Demining Operations in the Temporary Security Zone, Eritrea, 19 June 2005

In response to the stalemate, UNMEE increased its public information activities by reaching communities on both sides of the border to raise awareness of UN days and the issues they represent. These activities were carried out in both capitals as well as in the Sectors,

UNMEE Photo by Helena Milkertis

where they were received most enthusiastically by the public.

UNMEE's work to clear landmines in the TSZ has been largely successful. In 2005, UNMEE formed an "integrated" approach to clearing landmines, combining the Mission's military resources with those of a private demining contractor, Mechem of South Africa. Mechem's use of mechanical techniques and mine detection dogs complemented the manual demining expertise of the peacekeepers. This ini-

tiative led to an immediate, significant rise in mine clearance at a much lower operational cost. So far UNMEE has cleared millions of square metres of minefields in some of the most heavily mined areas of the TSZ. The land has been returned to the local population for farming and occupancy. UNMEE's unique approach to integrated demining could serve as a model for future UN peace operations, and has already been adopted by the UN mission in Sudan.

For UNMEE, 2005 began with a note of concern over the increased Ethiopian troop strength close to the border. The year ended on an even more disquieting note with the mission's ability to monitor the TSZ degraded by some 60 percent due to the helicopter ban and other restrictions imposed by Eritrea on its ground patrols. The stalemate remained intractable, and a real threat of renewed hostilities existed between Ethiopia and Eritrea, despite calls for restraint by the Security Council. ■

Georgia: UNOMIG police mark two years

The UN Observer Mission in Georgia (UNOMIG) was established by the Security Council in August 1993 to verify the ceasefire agreement between the Government of Georgia and the Abkhaz de-facto authorities in Georgia. Its mandate was expanded following the signing by the parties of the 1994 Agreement on a Ceasefire and Separation of Forces. Being a relatively small mission in a currently generally calm area, UNOMIG has a tendency to be overshadowed by larger, multidimensional missions deployed in volatile situations.

It is often overlooked, however, that UNOMIG has been given one of the most extensive mandates, ranging from pursuing a comprehensive political settlement of the conflict to monitoring the ceasefire and other military arrangements agreed upon by the two parties. Additional responsibilities in the field of human rights and humanitarian activities, as well as recently added certain civilian police functions further enhance the level of complexity of the mission's work.

Since its arrival in Georgia two years ago, a small team of UNOMIG police officers have started to make its presence felt. The officers have gained the trust of the local population by working together with local law enforcement agencies, and have started helping build the capacity of the local police force.

The team of 12 police officers from seven nations operates on the



UNOMIG Photo

Police officers at an event marking the establishment of Georgia's first Policewomen's Association in, Zugdidi-town, Georgia, November 2005

Georgian Government-controlled side of the ceasefire line. Abkhaz authorities, however, continued to refuse a UN police presence on their side of the line.

The mandate of the UN police team includes creating conditions that would encourage the return of refugees and internally displaced persons to their homes left during the

conflict of 1992-1993. UN police officers carry out patrols, train local police on law enforcement and human rights issues, provide equipment and forensic assistance.

The team's biggest achievements to date are in crime prevention and community policing. UN police have set up several crime-prevention committees in cooperation with local and regional

police commanders. With the encouragement of an UNOMIG female police officer, the local police force has set up the Police Women's Association, with the goal of encouraging more women to join the force.

The refusal by Abkhazia to allow the deployment of UN police officers in the Gali region continues to hamper cooperation across the ceasefire line. It has also hindered progress in criminal investigations and has limited the effective-

ness of anti-crime efforts. During his brief visit to Georgia in November, UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan emphasized the importance of ensuring the respect for rule of law and human rights in the conflict zone. ■

Other DPKO-led missions

Other, long-term peacekeeping missions continued to provide valuable measures of stability in areas where sustainable peace has not yet been fully achieved.

A landmark bus service across the Indian-Pakistani ceasefire line in Jammu and Kashmir was inaugurated on 7 April, marking what UN Secretary-General called "a powerful gesture of peace and an opportunity to reunite families divided for nearly 60 years." **The UN Military Observer Group in India and Pakistan (UNMOGIP)** has been observing a ceasefire in disputed state of Jammu and Kashmir since 1949. The state was split between India and Pakistan after they won independence from the United Kingdom in 1947. UNMOGIP also provided assistance to the victims of the powerful earthquake that struck northern Pakistan in October. After 57 years of UN presence, conflict has not resumed, and small steps towards reconciliation have increased.

In **Cyprus**, the situation remained generally calm and stable along ceasefire lines but progress toward a political solution was negligible at best. In 2005, the opening of additional crossing points and small increases in trade between the Greek Cypriot and the Turkish Cypriot communities enhanced opportunities for people-to-people contacts. **The UN Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP)** continued to enjoy generally good cooperation from both sides, although there were no official contacts between them. In June, former UN Under-Secretary-General Kieran Prendergast, traveled to Cyprus, Turkey and Greece for consultations on how best the UN could help bring about a settlement. He recommended that the UN continue to offer its good offices to both sides and that

the Secretary-General appoint a Special Adviser who would engage the parties in exploring common ground needed to resume talks.

In the **Middle East**, the 31-year old **UN Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF)** continued to observe the ceasefire between Israeli and Syrian forces in the Golan Heights, a buffer zone set up after the 1973 Arab-Israeli War. In calling for the renewal of UNDOF's mandate in December, the UN Secretary-General noted that the situation in the Middle East remained tense and was likely to remain so. A comprehensive settlement covering all aspects of the Middle East problem was needed to resolve the situation. In carrying out its mandate, UNDOF was also assisted by military observers from the UN Troop Supervision Organization (UNTSO) based in Jerusalem.

The UN played several roles in Lebanon in 2005. The 40-year old **UN Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL)** continued to monitor a ceasefire to prevent further escalation of sporadic outbreaks of violence that occurred in 2005 between Hezbollah militia in Lebanon and Israel troops along the Blue Line the two countries. Violence along the Blue Line resulted in civilian casualties on both sides. In July, the Security Council extended UNIFIL's mandate, acknowledging that the occasional exchange of fire in the Shab'a farms area in Lebanon showed that the situation remained volatile and fragile and could deteriorate at any time. There was political tension and uncertainty in Lebanon following the assassination of former Prime Minister Rafik Hariri in February. The Secretary-General appointed a **Special Envoy**, Detlev Mehlis, to investigate the assassination. Mehlis' investigation implicated

senior officials in the Syrian and Lebanese security services. On 15 December, the Security Council extended the inquiry into the assassination by a further six months, saying Syria had not cooperated fully with the investigators. In April, Syrian forces withdrew from Lebanon at the request of the Security Council, which was followed by free and fair elections in May and June.

In **Western Sahara**, the **UN Mission for the Referendum of Western Sahara (MINURSO)** continued to play an important stabilizing and ceasefire monitoring role in the region. This was in spite of continued instability as a result of the political impasse between the Moroccan Government and the Frente POLISARIO independence movement, as well as continued violations of their military agreement and alleged human rights abuses. In addition to monitoring a ceasefire, the 14-year old mission is also seeking to organize a referendum in the former Spanish colony which Morocco has claimed as its own, and where the POLISARIO has been fighting for independence. A senior UN envoy, Peter van Walsum, who visited the area in October to break the political deadlock, concluded that the positions of most key players in the Western Sahara dispute were "quasi-irreconcilable", although they all held strong views on the need for a durable solution. While there was progress on removing unexploded mines, and the release of 404 prisoners of war after 20 years of incarceration by the POLISARIO, both sides continued to violate the ceasefire by increasing their military presence in the restricted areas, staging incursions in the buffer zone and restricting movements of the UN military observers. Meanwhile, MINURSO restructured its military posts by decreasing some stations while simultaneously increasing the number of military observers. ■

Afghanistan: Beyond the Bonn Agreement

Following last year's historic presidential elections that brought President Hamid Karzai's government into office, Afghans once again headed to the polls in September this year to elect a new parliament, its first fully representative legislature in three decades. The birth of the new parliament also marked a successful conclusion of the Bonn Agreement, the political blueprint that has guided Afghanistan's transition to peace and national reconciliation since it was signed in Germany in December 2001.

The parliamentary election highlighted the immense strides Afghanistan has made in a few short years. Civil society and the media participated actively at every step of the process, and there was a marked improvement in how govern-

ment institutions managed the elections, particularly the military and the police.

Threats and attacks on election workers and candidates failed to derail the process. More than half of the 12.4 million registered voters went to the polls, with relatively few security incidents. About 5,800 candidates ran for election, with 25 percent of the seats reserved for women. In addition, women also won seats in their own right in about 13 of the 34 provinces. It took more than a month to count and certify the elections, and the final results were announced in early November.

In spite of positive changes, however, turnout was lower than expected in some parts of the country, and many

electoral complaints were filed. The single non-transferable voting system, under which people voted for individual candidates not political parties, saw many candidates without affiliation to any political party being elected into parliament at the expense of established political parties.

The 2005 parliamentary provincial council elections, which were supported by the United Nations, also presented significantly greater challenges than in 2004, from the need for extensive civic education to the transporting of voting materials to more than 26,000 polling stations – roughly ten times last year's volume – with some ballots listing hundreds of candidates. UNDP started training 270 parliamentary staff begin-

OCPI/UNAMA Photo by Freshta Dunya



Women mark their ballots in Afghanistan's National Assembly and Provincial Council elections, Kabul, 18 September 2005.

ning in February to ensure the smooth functioning of the legislature. The new Afghan parliament opened its first session in December, signaling the birth of a new nation and the fulfillment of a promise made four years ago in Bonn.

Meanwhile, the UN Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA) continued its work supporting Afghan institutions in the face of several challenges that included persistent security problems, a booming illegal economy fuelled by opium poppies, a weak justice system and government institutions susceptible to corruption. Nonetheless, the groundwork that UNAMA and its international partners laid over the past several years enabled important steps to be made towards further stability and development.

The disarmament, demobilization, and reintegration programme, which begun in 2003, was completed in July. Of the 63,380 ex-fighters who were disarmed under the programme, more than 60,000 had received or were undergoing training in agriculture or business. A few thousand combatants joined the Afghan National Army, which is expected to reach its target strength of 43,000 by September 2007, three years ahead of schedule. The current plan provides for the training of 62,000 police officers, two-thirds of whom were trained by the end of the year.

UNAMA has also taken an active role in mediating long-standing tribal disputes. The most successful was the settlement in June of a 60-year-old feud between the Balkhel and Sabari tribes in Khost province in the southeast. The dispute had caused the death of dozens of people in recent years, along with kidnappings, livestock losses, and the closure of an important road linking the affected area to the provincial capital.

Even without continued insecurity, Afghanistan faces enormous development challenges. The government's endorsement in 2005 of Afghanistan's first Millennium Development Goals Report, drafted with UNDP and UNAMA assistance, represented a crucial step. The priority of the UN family in the country will be to assist Afghanistan to meet the MDG targets. ■

Iraq: UNAMI underpins the transitional political process

Although events in Iraq during 2005 were well chronicled in the media, the contributions of the UN Assistance Mission in Iraq (UNAMI) received less attention. Yet throughout the year, UNAMI's team of political, electoral, constitutional, information, humanitarian and human rights experts-- working mostly from within Baghdad's International Zone and from Amman and Kuwait,--employed their expertise and resources to assist the Iraqi people and government with their political and economic development.

The mandate given UNAMI in Security Council resolution 1546 tasks the mission with facilitating the political process in Iraq and encouraging that process to be as inclusive and transparent as possible. In November 2005 the Security Council reaffirmed UNAMI's mandate with the passage of resolution 1637. To that end the Special Representative of the Secretary General and the UNAMI team engaged Iraqis of all political and ethnic backgrounds throughout the year.

As Iraq underwent the complexity of a political transition process, UNAMI focused its activities on providing political, electoral and constitutional support, while at the same time coordinating donor assistance and providing support for Iraq's reconstruction and development. The mission's human rights office monitored abuses and strove to support the rehabilitation of Iraqi institutions that would be responsible for improving the human rights situation in the country. Terrorism, torture, arbitrary detentions and extrajudicial killings continued to present a major challenge to the rule of law.

In 2005, the Iraqi people voted three times on the future of their country, including a referendum on 15 October on the new Iraqi constitution. Through its assistance to the Independent Electoral Commission of Iraq (IECI), the UN provided critical support to these electoral processes.

With UN assistance, Iraq was able to meet each major stage during the past year's political timetable as set by the Security Council. Elections for the Transitional National Assembly in January 2005, organized by the IECI, produced a Transitional Iraqi Government and set in motion the process to draft a national constitution. Intense negotiations over the drafting went on from May through mid-October, with the SRSG encouraging all parties to support the process, and emphasizing that the constitution be inclusive and representative of all Iraqis.

During this period, UNAMI's Office of Constitutional Support provided technical advice, capacity-building and donor coordination. Together with UNDP, the Office also arranged for the printing and dissemination of the constitution, while the Iraqi authorities were responsible for distributing it. UNAMI also mobilized the Iraqi media to raise public awareness of the entire process.

With the 15 December elections for a Council of Representatives, Iraq entered the last phase of its formal transition process under the Transitional Administrative Law. However, Iraq continues to face significant challenges, particularly with regard to national security, which continues to be a daunting and elusive goal.

While the tenuous security forced the UN's 95 international staff to remain largely confined to the Green Zone, the UN deployed hundreds of local and international staff in Iraq at the peak of operations during 2005, including in Basra and Erbil.

On 12 November, 2005 Secretary-General Kofi Annan visited Iraq to reiterate the UN's commitments.

In his last report of 2005, the Secretary-General cautioned that the December elections would not mark the end of the



Secretary-General Kofi Annan Arrives in Baghdad, Iraq, 12 November 2005

country's political transition, "but the beginning of a new phase in which responsible politics and leadership will make the difference between success and failure." In 2006 UNAMI is to remain

engaged in further implementing its Security Council mandate with a view to promoting national dialogue and reconciliation and shaping the democratic future of Iraq. ■

UNSCO mediates, coordinates UN work in the Middle East

For Gaza, where the United Nations Special Coordinator's Office (UNSCO) for the Middle East works to improve the prospects for real peace, the highlight of 2005 was Israel's unilateral withdrawal from the occupied Palestinian territories of Gaza Strip and parts of the northern West Bank. The withdrawal raised hopes of a resumption of the peace process under the Road Map, the peace plan presented to the parties in 2003 by the Quartet, a diplomatic grouping comprising the UN, the European Union, Russia and the United States.

This hope, however, has yet to be met. Following the withdrawal, there was a brief period of quiet before yet another cycle of violence was set in motion, causing deaths and injuries on both

sides. Restrictions on the movement of people and goods continued to have a devastating impact on the Palestinian economy. Israeli authorities eased restrictions somewhat on the movement of Palestinians in the West Bank this year by removing several military checkpoints, but numerous constraints to social and economic development remained. As a consequence, a high proportion of Palestinians now rely on humanitarian assistance.

UN agencies continued to deliver humanitarian and development assistance under the leadership of UNSCO. Meanwhile, UNSCO continued its mediation efforts, bilaterally with the parties to the peace process, and also as part of the wider international community. ■

Political missions:

The main tasks for UN political missions, which are run by the Department of Political Affairs, are to prevent or resolve deadly conflicts around the globe and to consolidate peace in societies emerging from war.

In May, the **UN Mission of Support in Timor-Leste (UNMISSET)** completed its mandate after six years of steering the country's independence from Indonesia. In its report released in July, the Commission of Experts set up to review the prosecution of serious crimes in Timor-Leste recommended that Indonesia review its prosecutions and that some cases of abuse be reopened.

As a testimony of UNMISSET's success and the country's political stability, its successor, the **UN Office in Timor-Leste (UNOTIL)**, did not have peacekeeping troops. The international community had recognized that Timor-Leste was safe and peaceful and that its authorities were able to take over the responsibility for maintaining internal and external security.

UNOTIL's mandate included support in capacity building to Timor-Leste's state institutions, such as the national police. In December, as evidence of the transformation of the world's newest nation from a beneficiary to a contributor to UN peacekeeping operations, 10 UNOTIL-trained police officers from the Timor-Leste national police were deployed for peacekeeping duties with the UN police contingents in Kosovo.

Meanwhile, Timor-Leste's relations with Indonesia continued to improve.

The **UN Observer Mission in Bougainville (UNOMB)** ended in June with the swearing in of Bougainville's first autonomous provincial government. The mission had helped to end violence in the province of Bougainville Island which had fought a long secessionist struggle against

Papua New Guinea. During its stay in the region, the UN was instrumental in negotiating, mediating and facilitating the resolution of the decade-long conflict that ended in 1998. The UN also supervised the collection and destruction of some 2,000 weapons, pushed the parties to meet agreed pre-election deadlines and ultimately facilitated the election itself.

The main tasks for UN political missions, which are run by the Department of Political Affairs, are to prevent or resolve deadly conflicts around the globe and to consolidate peace in societies emerging from wars.

With **The Central African Republic** gradually returning to a path of peace, economic recovery, reconstruction and sustainable development, the **UN Peacebuilding Support Office (BONUCA)** continued to pursue its mandate to strengthen political dialogue and promote the rule of law.

However, the country's economic recovery was hindered by an upsurge in cross-border banditry and the proliferation of weapons in the sub-region.

The **UN Peacebuilding Support Office in Guinea-Bissau (UNOGBIS)** supported the country's presidential elections in June and the run-off held in July. On 1 October, the winner, João Bernardo Vieira, was sworn into office as President, ending three decades of coups and counter-coups. With the swearing in of a new leader, the country hoped to move away from the divisions of the past towards a more harmonious and constructive future.

However, political tensions along personality and party lines continued to cast a shadow on the prospects for stability. Meanwhile, UNOGBIS continued to promote the rule of law and human rights, consolidate peace and assist national authorities in drafting

legislation on the prevention, treatment and control of HIV/AIDS.

The **UN Political Office for Somalia (UNPOS)** provided intensive support to the Somali National Reconciliation Conference held in Nairobi, Kenya, under the auspices of the Inter-governmental Authority on Development (IGAD), and worked with international partners to help Somali leaders agree on a transitional administration.

By early 2005, the Conference had produced a broad-based Transitional Federal Government which moved back to Somalia in mid-2005 from its temporary base in Nairobi.

Somalia continued to be beset by serious political problems, including an assassination attempt in November against Prime Minister Ali Mohammed Gedi in Mogadishu, and an increased inflow of illegal weapons inside the country in violation of the UN arms embargo and political violence.

The **UN Tajikistan Office of Peacebuilding (UNTOP)** was instrumental in helping to build democratic institutions and foster peace in the country during the vulnerable post-civil war period. It provided technical assistance for the parliamentary elections in February 2005.

UNOWA used its good offices to coordinate UN support to the region, mediate and organize meetings in an effort to address sub-regional cross-border challenges to peace and security.

UNTOP's human rights information resource centre became popular with Tajiks who were able to use it for studying human rights, accessing the internet and receiving legal consultations.

By the end of the year, UNTOP, with support from UNDP, had trained 1,100 police officers on human rights. More than 300 people from 41 district



UN Photo by Ian Steele

One of the demobilized women who recently graduated as a police officer after training offered by UNDP, Hargeisa, Somalia, 30 October 2005

commissions and 3,000 local election commission members took part in a series of seminars on international election standards, election laws and procedures in Tajikistan.

The **UN Office for West Africa (UNOWA)** was active in promoting cooperation among UN peacekeeping and political missions based in the region. There was visible progress in maintaining political stability in **Sierra Leone**, and in **Liberia**, where elections led to the election of the first women head of state in Africa, Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf.

The situation in **Togo** stabilized after days of violence caused by the death of former President Eyadema. However, a political stalemate in **Côte d'Ivoire** caused the postponement of the country's elections.

Regional challenges included the flow of small arms and light weapons in the region; disarmament, demobilization and reintegration of former combatants; the fight against HIV/AIDS; refugees and displaced persons and youth unemployment. ■

DPKO stresses conduct and a duty of care

Over the past year, DPKO set in motion sweeping reforms of the culture of peacekeeping, initiated in the wake of revelations of sexual exploitation and abuse on peacekeeping missions during the previous year.

In June, the General Assembly approved a wide-ranging package of recommendations proposed by the Secretary-General's Advisor on Sexual Exploitation and Abuse by UN Peacekeeping Personnel, Prince Zeid Ra'ad Zeid Al-Husseini.

Subsequently DPKO established Conduct and Discipline units at UN headquarters and in the eight largest peacekeeping operations, prepared a far-reaching policy on victims assistance, launched communications and public outreach strategies, designed and implemented mandatory training for personnel in all categories, strengthened management accountability, worked to improve living conditions and welfare for peacekeepers and made progress in amending legal agreements of various categories of peacekeeping personnel to include prohibitions on sexual exploitation and abuse. This included amendments to the memorandum of understanding between the UN and troop-contributing countries. The Secretary-General also appointed a

Group of Legal Experts to study ways to strengthen the criminal accountability of UN personnel who commit crimes while serving on UN peacekeeping operations. DPKO is also working with Member States to ensure effective follow up when offenders are repatriated.

A task force led by the UN Secretariat's two high-level policy groups--the Executive Committee on Peace and Security and the Executive Committee on Humanitarian Affairs--worked throughout the year to develop the details of these policy changes. Meanwhile, the Deputy Secretary-General visited five peacekeeping operations to carry the Secretary-General's message of zero tolerance for sexual misconduct.

In the field, investigations into allegations of sexual exploitation and abuse continued, now handled by the Office of Internal Oversight Services (OIOS). A comprehensive data base is being developed to track and report all misconduct cases. Since January 2004, investigations were completed of some 291 peacekeeping mission personnel, resulting in the dismissal of 16 civilians, the repatriation of 16 members of formed police units and 137 repatriations or rotations home on disciplinary grounds of military personnel, including six commanders.

The Peacekeeper's DUTY OF CARE

- You are privileged to have been selected to serve in a UN peacekeeping operation. This privilege confers upon you serious responsibilities towards the population you have come to serve.
- When serving in a peacekeeping operation, you represent the United Nations. The Blue Beret should be worn with pride and with awareness of its meaning to the world.
- The trust bestowed upon the United Nations and the mandate entrusted to the United Nations by the international community call upon you to exercise the highest standards of professional conduct and behaviour, whether on or off duty.
- UN peacekeepers are deployed into extraordinary situations in which local populations are often at extreme risk. The entire population that we serve are considered beneficiaries of our assistance. It is the duty of each peacekeeper to protect the vulnerable and to refrain from doing harm.
- UN peacekeepers have a unique opportunity to help populations emerging from difficult conflict situations and to contribute to a lasting peace and stability. Because of our sensitive role, misbehaviour of one single peacekeeper can diminish the positive role of the entire UN. Maintain respect for the local population and the highest standards of professionalism at all times.
- Any form of exploitation or abuse of the local population is unacceptable. UN standards of conduct forbid sexual exploitation and abuse. These standards apply to all peacekeepers irrespective of local customs or laws, or the customs or laws of your own country.
- The United Nations is an expression of the best hopes and aspirations of the international community. Each peacekeeper is an ambassador of this organization. Stay mindful of your role and of your responsibilities.

UN Photo by Ky Chung



Soldiers of ONUCI Ghanaian battalion 3 participate in sexual exploitation and awareness training, 22 July 2005

Mission such as MONUC in the DRC employed strict measures such as no-go areas and establishments, curfews and policies requiring troops to wear uniforms both on and off-duty. They also established focal points and hot lines to receive complaints from the public.

In order to reinforce the message that service with a UN peace operation is a privilege not a right, DPKO introduced the Peacekeepers Duty of Care (see box) and a film on conduct which stresses the crucial and unique relationships between individual peacekeepers and members of the host

population. DPKO is committed to eradicating exploitation and abuse with preventative and disciplinary measures while also reinforcing the message that UN peacekeepers make a real and tangible difference in peoples' lives all over the world in a service too important to be derailed by misconduct.

Gender in peacekeeping: an evolving field of practice

This year saw remarkable progress in women's participation in many aspects of peacekeeping in countries emerging from conflict.

In Afghanistan, an action plan developed by the **United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA)** to improve the participation of Afghan women in political life continued to have a significant impact. The Election Task Force chaired by UNAMA's gender advisor worked with various women's groups to promote women's representation in the election process both as voters and candidates. In the September parliamentary elections, 44 percent of the voters registered were women, an increase of 4 percent from the 2004 presidential elections. In the lower house of the new Parliament, 68 of 249 seats were reserved for women. In addition, women also won seats in their own right in about 13 of the 34 provinces.

Since the appointment of the first gender advisor of the **UN Office in Burundi (ONUB)** in 2004, a major focus has been disarmament, demobilization and reintegration of women fighters. As a result of the gender advisor's lobbying, the category of "women fighters" was redefined to include not only active fighters but also women who supported the war in different roles, including porters, cooks and sexual slaves. Of the 485 women disarmed in Burundi, 231 joined the country's police force. Using the same method, the **UN Mission in Liberia** facilitated the disarmament and demobilization of more than 21,000 women and girls.

When a provisional survey showed that women made up only 25-30 percent of those who registered to vote in Liberian elections, the interim government launched a nation-wide awareness campaign encouraging women to register. UNMIL supported initiatives advocating the government to adopt laws that would give women 30 percent representation on all political parties' candidates lists. Although the Electoral Reform Law did not include quotas, the political parties' guidelines stipulated that 30 percent of the candidates be women. In November, Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf was elected Africa's first woman head of state.

A full third of lawmakers in the new Burundi parliament are women, including the speaker of parliament and several cabinet ministers.

Despite progress achieved in involving women in peacekeeping missions, major challenges remain, including ending sexual exploitation and abuse by some peacekeepers. The UN's zero tolerance policy and strategies of prevention, enforcement of discipline standards and regulations, training and raising awareness, which the UN started implementing together with the Member States in 2004, has started to have real impact.

While these steps are clearly needed, abuse cannot be prevented without empowering women and girls through gender mainstreaming, and the inclusion of gender issues in all aspects of the UN's work. To advance the efforts, the Under-Secretary General for Peacekeeping Operations, Jean-Marie Guehenno,

issued new policy guidelines on gender mainstreaming in March, with an action plan finalized later in the year.

The adoption of gender sensitive approach in all aspects of peacekeeping remained a new area for the United Nations. Much more remains to be done to ensure that all peacekeeping personnel and Member States alike embrace gender mainstreaming as a critical strategy for making peacekeeping more effective. ■

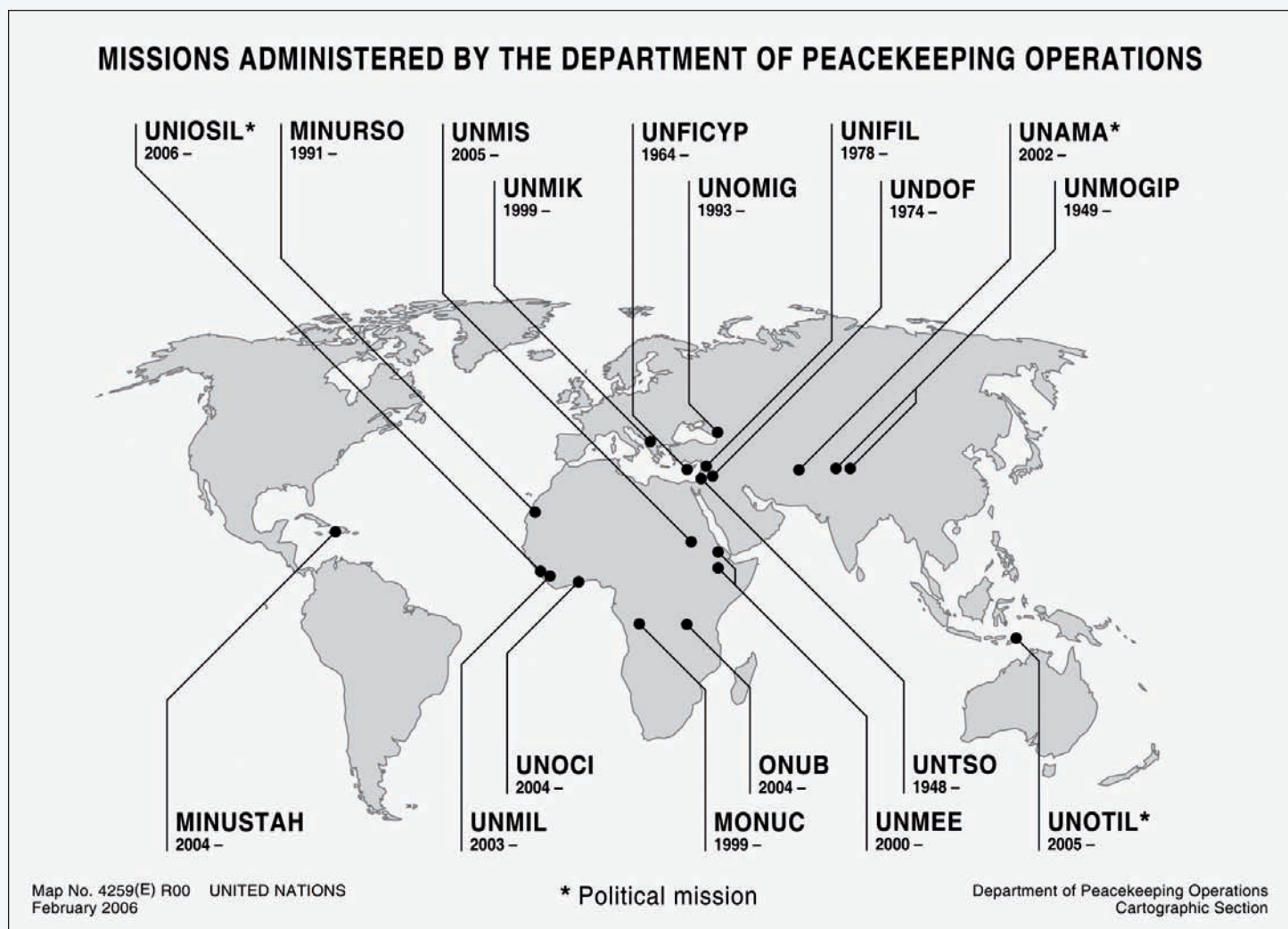


A potential police recruit hoping to make the minimum height (1.60m) required for a woman to register to become a HNP recruit, Police Academy in Frere, Haiti, 16 November 2005

MINUSTAH Photo by Sophia Paris

as of 31 December 2005

Peacekeeping operation since 194860
 Current peacekeeping operations15
 Current peace operations directed and supported by the Department of Peacekeeping Operations18



PERSONNEL

Uniformed personnel69,748
 Countries contributing military and police personnel108
 International civilian personnel 4,730
 Local civilian personnel 8,041
 UN Volunteers 1,649
 Total number of personnel serving in peacekeeping operations 83,808
 Total number of fatalities in peace operations since 19482,226
 Fatalities in 2005121

FINANCIAL ASPECTS

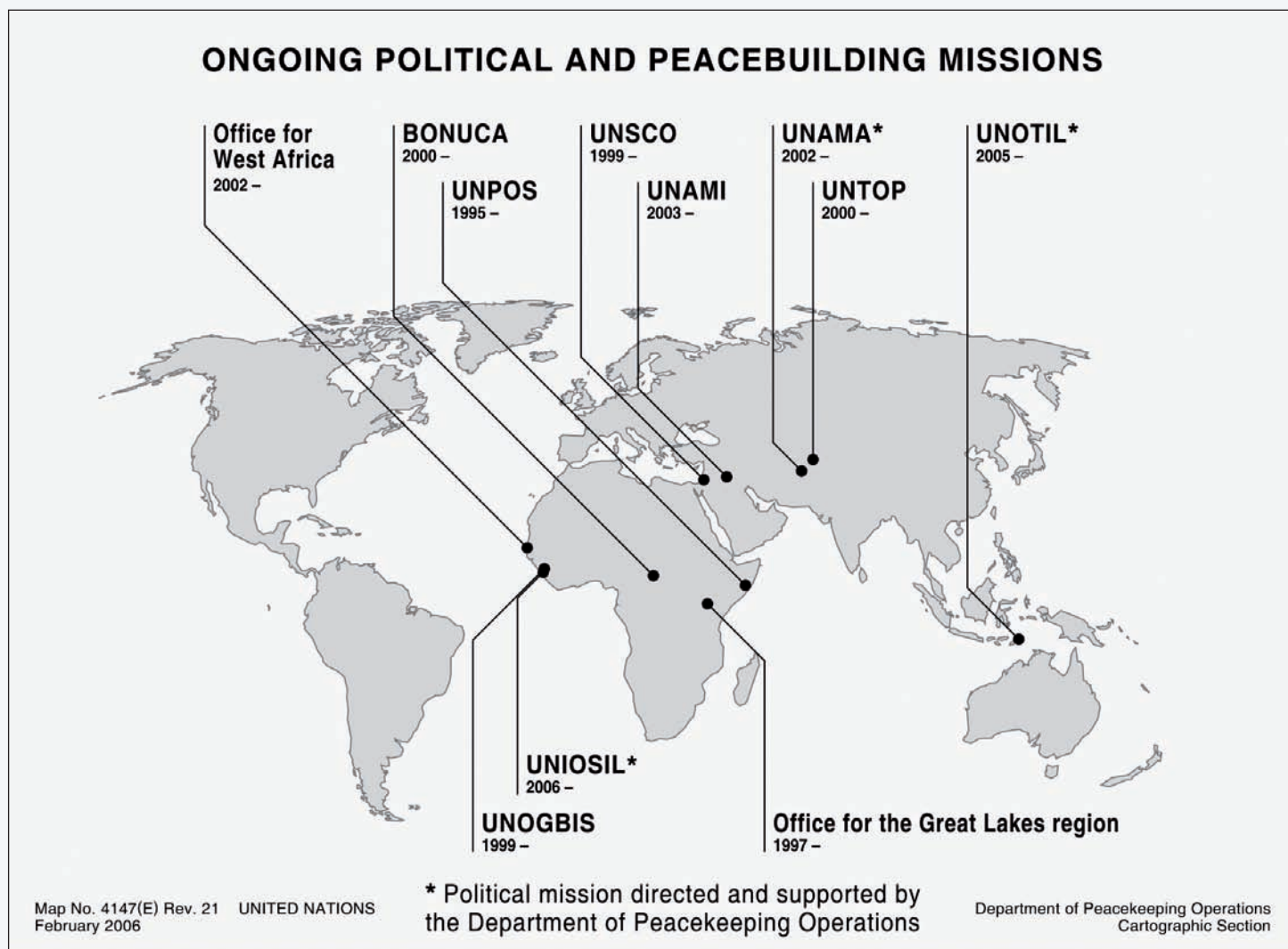
Approved resources for the period from 1 July 2005 to 30 June 2006..... About \$5.03 billion
 Estimated total cost of operations from 1948 to 30 June 2006..... About \$41.04 billion
 Outstanding contributions to peacekeeping (30 November 2005)..... About \$1.99 billion

NOTE: The term “uniformed personnel” refers to troops, military observers, and UN police.

CURRENT PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS

UNTSO United Nations Truce Supervision Organization Strength: military observer 150; international civilian 104; local civilian 119; total personnel 371 Fatalities: 44 Appropriation 2005: \$29.04 million	Since May 1948	UNMEE United Nations Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea Strength: military observer 202; troop 3,130; international civilian 191; local civilian 228; UN volunteer 75; total personnel 3,837 Fatalities: 13 Approved budget 07/05–06/06: \$185.99 million	Since July 2000
UNMOGIP United Nations Military Observer Group in India and Pakistan Strength: military observer 42; international civilian 22; local civilian 47; total personnel 110 Fatalities: 11 Appropriation 2005: \$8.37 million	Since January 1949	UNMIL United Nations Mission in Liberia Strength: military observer 197; troop 14,824; police 1,091; international civilian 552; local civilian 828; UN volunteer 286; total personnel 17,768 Fatalities: 67 Approved budget 07/05–06/06: \$760.57 million	Since September 2003
UNFICYP United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus Strength: troop 840; police 69; international civilian 37; local civil- ian 110; total personnel 1,057 Fatalities: 175 Approved budget 07/05–06/06: \$46.51 million including volun- tary contributions of one third from Cyprus and \$6.5 million from Greece	Since March 1964	UNOCI United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire Strength: military observer 195; troop 6,698; police 696; interna- tional civilian 358 ; local civilian 424; UN volunteer 205; total personnel 8,541 Fatalities: 14 Approved budget 07/05–06/06: \$438.17 million	Since April 2004
UNDOF United Nations Disengagement Observer Force Strength: troop 1,047; international civilian 37; local civilian 105; total personnel 1,188 Fatalities: 42 Approved budget 07/05–06/06: \$43.71 million	Since June 1974	MINUSTAH United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti Strength: troop 7,286; police 1,748; international civilian 449; local civilian 512; UN volunteer 171; total personnel 10,108 Fatalities: 13 Approved budget 07/05–06/06: \$541.30 million	Since June 2004
UNIFIL United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon Strength: troop 1,989; international civilian 100; local civilian 297; total personnel 2,390 Fatalities: 256 Approved budget 07/05–06/06: \$99.23 million	Since March 1978	ONUB United Nations Operation in Burundi Current strength: military observer 187; troop 5,170; police 82; international civilian 316; local civilian 388; UN volunteer 146; total personnel 6,466 Fatalities: 20 Approved budget 07/05–06/06 \$307.69 million	Since June 2004
MINURSO United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara Strength: military observer 195; troop 31; police 6; international civilian 120; local civilian 96; total personnel 449 Fatalities: 14 Approved budget 07/05–06/06: \$47.95 million	Since April 1991	UNMIS United Nations Mission in the Sudan Strength: authorized – troop 10,000; civilian police 715; proposed – international civilian 1,018; local civilian 2,632; UN volunteer 214; total personnel 14,579 Current strength: military observer 467; troop 4,009; police 289; inter- national civilian 526; local civilian 1,023; UN Volunteers 71; total personnel 5,783 Approved budget 07/05–06/06: \$969.47 million	Since March 2005
UNOMIG United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia Strength: military observer 122; police 12; international civilian 107; local civilian 187; UN volunteer 2, total personnel 419 Fatalities: 10 Approved budget 07/05–06/06: \$36.38 million	Since August 1993	<i>Missions completed in 2005:</i>	
UNMIK United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo Strength: military observer 37; police 2,146; international civilian 623; local civilian 2,289; UN volunteer 202; total personnel 5,482 Fatalities: 42 Approved budget 07/05–06/06: \$252.55 million	Since June 1999	UNAMSIL United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone Peak strength: (31 March 2002); military 17,368; UN Police 87; international civilian 322; local civilian 552 Fatalities: 188 Total expenditures: \$2.8 billion	(22 October 1999 – 31 December 2005)
MONUC United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo Strength: military observer 707; troop 15,046; police 1,038; international civilian 828; local civilian 1,388; UN volunteer 491; total personnel 19,247 Fatalities: 75 Approved budget 07/05–06/06: \$1,153.89 million	Since November 1999	UNMISSET United Nations Mission of Support in East Timor Peak strength: (31 August 2002): military 4,776; UN police 771; international civilian 465; local civilian 856; Fatalities: 25 Total estimated expenditures: \$565 million	(20 May 2002 - 20 May 2005)

NOTE: UNTSO and UNMOGIP are funded from the United Nations regular biennial budget. Costs to the United Nations of the other current operations are financed from their own separate accounts on the basis of legally binding assessments on all Member States. For these missions, budget figures are for one year unless otherwise specified. All budgets include requirements for the support account for peacekeeping operations and the UN Logistics Base in Brindisi (Italy).



NUMBER OF MISSIONS 11

PERSONNEL

Uniformed personnel139
 International civilian personnel 817
 Local civilian personnel1,741
 UN Volunteers163
 Total number of personnel serving in political and peacebuilding missions2,860

CURRENT POLITICAL AND PEACE-BUILDING MISSIONS

UNAMA* Since 28 March 2002
United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan
Special Representative of the Secretary-General: Jean Arnault (France)
Strength: international civilian 185; local civilian 751; military observer 11; civilian police 7; UN volunteer 42

BONUCA Since 15 February 2000
United Nations Peacebuilding Office in the Central African Republic
Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of BONUCA: Lamine Cissé (Senegal)
Strength: international civilian 25; military advisers 5; police 6; local civilian 44; UN volunteer 2

Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for the Great Lakes Region Since 19 December 1997
Special Representative of the Secretary-General: Ibrahima Fall (Senegal)
Strength: international civilian 8; local civilian 8

UNOGBIS Since 3 March 1999
United Nations Peacebuilding Support Office in Guinea-Bissau
Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of UNOGBIS: João Bernardo Honwana (Mozambique)
Strength: international civilian 11; military adviser 2; police adviser 1; local civilian 13

UNSCO Since 1 October 1999
Office of the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East
Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process and Personal Representative of the Secretary-General to the Palestine Liberation Organization and the Palestinian Authority: Alvaro de Soto (Peru)
Strength: international civilian 27; local civilian 23

UNPOS Since 15 April 1995
United Nations Political Office for Somalia
Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of UNPOS: Francois Lonseny Fall (Guinea)
Strength: international civilian 5; local civilian 3

UNTOP Since 1 June 2000
United Nations Tajikistan Office of Peacebuilding
Representative of the Secretary-General for Tajikistan: Vladimir Sotirov (Bulgaria)
Strength: international civilian 10; police adviser 1; local civilian 18

Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for West Africa Since 29 November 2001
Special Representative of the Secretary-General: Ahmedou Ould-Abdallah (Mauritania)
Strength: international civilian 7; local civilian 7

UNAMI Since 14 August 2003
United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq
Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Iraq: Ashraf Jehangir Qazi (Pakistan)
Authorized strength: 816 (344 international, 472 local)
Current strength (staff based in Iraq, Jordan and Kuwait): international civilian 222; local civilian 365; military advisor 5

UNOTIL* Since 21 May 2005
United Nations Office in Timor-Leste
Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of Office: Sukehiro Hasegawa (Japan)
Strength: international civilian 158; local civilian 281; military advisor 15; police 57; UN volunteer 36

UNIOSIL* Since 1 January 2006
United Nations Integrated Office in Sierra Leone
Executive Representative for UNIOSIL: Victor da Silva Angelo (Portugal)
Strength: international civilian 159; local civilian 228; military observers 10; police 20; UN volunteer 83

Mission completed in 2005:

UNOMB 1 January 2004 - 30 June 2005
United Nations Observer Mission in Bougainville

* Political or peacebuilding mission directed and supported by the Department of Peacekeeping Operations. All other political and peacebuilding missions are directed by the Department of Political Affairs. For information on political and peace-building missions, visit the United Nations website at http://www.un.org/Depts/dpa/prev_dip/fst_prev_dip.htm

PEACEKEEPING CONTRIBUTIONS

Military observers, Police and Troops as of 31 December 2005

No.	Country	Police	Milob	Troops	Total
1.	Albania		3		3
2.	Algeria		10	2	12
3.	Argentina	26	7	864	897
4.	Australia	18	23	9	50
5.	Austria	24	15	385	424
6.	Bangladesh	478	92	8,959	9,529
7.	Belgium		15	1	16
8.	Benin	77	32	312	421
9.	Bolivia		21	223	244
10.	Bosnia and Herzegovina	23	14		37
11.	Brazil	14	30	1,226	1,270
12.	Bulgaria	52	8	2	62
13.	Burkina Faso	169	23	2	194
14.	Cambodia		4		4
15.	Cameroon	135	4		139
16.	Canada	136	40	211	387
17.	Central African Republic	11			11
18.	Chad	34	12		46
19.	Chile	23	6	541	570
20.	China	197	71	791	1,059
21.	Congo		5		5
22.	Cote d'Ivoire	8			8
23.	Croatia	5	20	9	34
24.	Czech Republic	17	14		31
25.	Denmark	25	33	7	65
26.	Djibouti	40			40
27.	Dominican Republic		4		4
28.	Ecuador		25	68	93
29.	Egypt	50	69	623	742
30.	El Salvador	21	16		37
31.	Estonia		2		2
32.	Ethiopia		22	3,388	3,410
33.	Fiji	55	2		57
34.	Finland	8	28	4	40
35.	France	152	38	392	582
36.	Gabon		5		5
37.	Gambia	30	16	3	49
38.	Germany	252	17	24	293
39.	Ghana	84	62	2,374	2,520
40.	Greece	11	13	2	26
41.	Guatemala		26	189	215
42.	Guinea	96	19		115
43.	Honduras		12		12
44.	Hungary	10	14	82	106
45.	India	381	93	6,810	7,284
46.	Indonesia		24	175	199
47.	Iran		3		3
48.	Ireland	18	26	429	473
49.	Italy	38	21	53	112
50.	Jamaica	15			15
51.	Japan			30	30
52.	Jordan	739	76	2,888	3,703
53.	Kenya	62	79	1,341	1,482
54.	Kyrgyzstan	5	14		19

No.	Country	Police	Milob	Troops	Total
55.	Lebanon	2			2
56.	Lithuania	8			8
57.	Madagascar	6			6
58.	Malawi	27	37	112	176
59.	Malaysia	16	52	7	75
60.	Mali	35	49	3	87
61.	Moldova		9	1	10
62.	Mongolia		5		5
63.	Morocco		5	1,701	1,706
64.	Mozambique		6	12	18
65.	Namibia	7	21	862	890
66.	Nepal	431	41	2,994	3,466
67.	Netherlands	9	14	1	24
68.	New Zealand		12	1	13
69.	Niger	104	27	367	498
70.	Nigeria	374	84	1,954	2,412
71.	Norway	27	29	8	64
72.	Pakistan	394	107	8,498	8,999
73.	Palau	2			2
74.	Paraguay		46	6	52
75.	Peru		31	214	245
76.	Philippines	113	30	340	483
77.	Poland	129	21	555	705
78.	Portugal	16	6		22
79.	Republic of Korea		28	21	49
80.	Romania	191	54		245
81.	Russia	115	96	1	212
82.	Rwanda		15	255	270
83.	Samoa	21			21
84.	Senegal	416	41	1,388	1,845
85.	Serbia and Montenegro	7	8	6	21
86.	Sierra Leone	7		250	257
87.	Slovakia		2	290	292
88.	Slovenia	15	2		17
89.	South Africa		26	1,984	2,010
90.	Spain	43	7	203	253
91.	Sri Lanka	40	11	961	1,012
92.	Sweden	64	27	236	327
93.	Switzerland	7	18	1	26
94.	Thailand		3	177	180
95.	Timor-Leste	10			10
96.	Togo	10	18	300	328
97.	Tunisia		50	474	524
98.	Turkey	236	5	3	244
99.	Uganda	33	12	2	47
100.	Ukraine	202	32	486	720
101.	United Kingdom	69	14	266	349
102.	United Rep. of Tanzania	3	18	3	24
103.	United States of America	359	18	10	387
104.	Uruguay	16	67	2,345	2,428
105.	Vanuatu	9			9
106.	Yemen	9	26	1	36
107.	Zambia	50	49	352	451
108.	Zimbabwe	70	20		90

* Includes 90 uniformed personnel from UNAMA, UNOTIL and UNIOSIL, which are political or peacebuilding missions also directed and supported by the Department of Peacekeeping Operations

Totals

POLICE	UNMO	TROOP
7,241	2,527	60,070

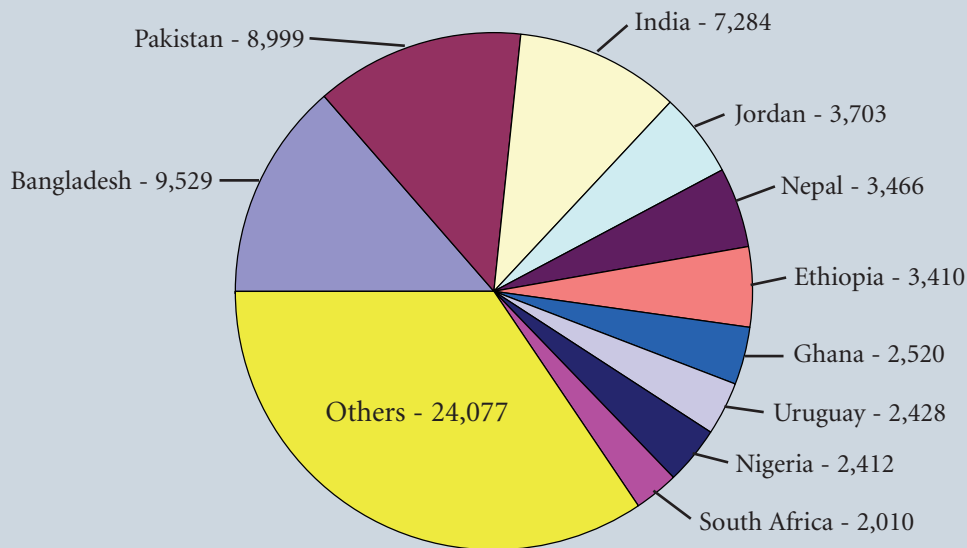
Grand total in PKO

69,838*

PEACEKEEPING 2005 IN A SNAP SHOT

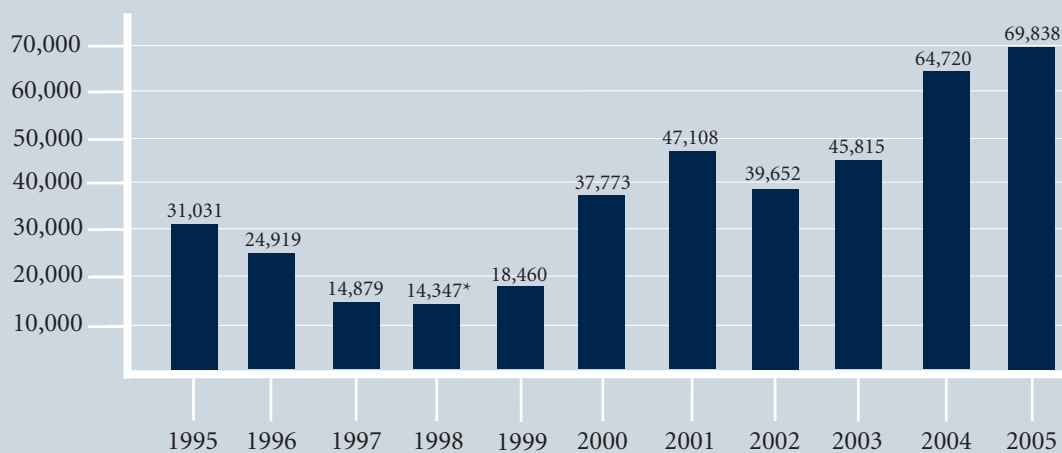
Top 10 Troop Contributors

As of 31 December 2005



Surge in Troops: 1995-2005

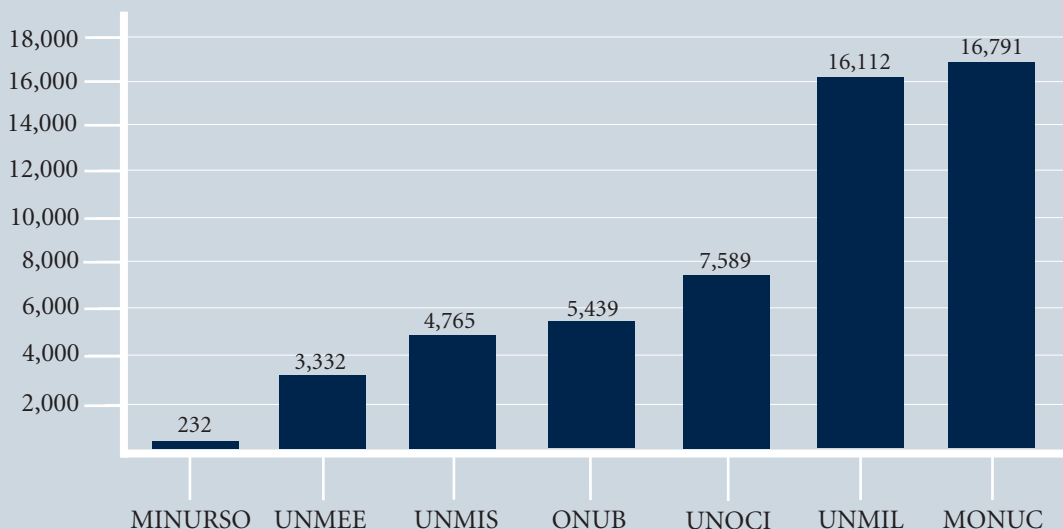
As of 31 December of each year



* As of 30 November 2004

Troop Strength of UN Peace Operations in Africa

As of 31 December 2005



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2005: A good year for peacekeeping operations

For UN peacekeeping, 2005 was in many ways a banner year.

After having launched four new operations in 2004 and the Sudan mission in 2005, the Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO) was, at its peak during the year, directing 18 peace operations across the world, comprising some 85,000 troops, police and civilian personnel and directly affecting some 200 million men, women and children in host countries.

The Department of Political Affairs (DPA) also led eight special political missions and peacebuilding support offices in West and Central Africa, Central Asia, Iraq and the Middle East.

As the expression of the collective will of the international community to assist societies moving from armed conflict to peace, peacekeeping continued to grow in scope and complexity.

New missions tackled a range of complex and multidisciplinary tasks including disarming combatants, organizing democratic elections, building local police and security capacities, restoring public order, running public adminis-

trations, monitoring human rights and shoring up fragile peace agreements.

During the same year, two external reports credited UN peace operations with a quantifiable reduction in international conflict and war-related deaths.

A number of major milestones were achieved in 2005: a large peace support operation began deployment in Sudan to bolster the Comprehensive Peace Agreement signed in March between north and south Sudan. Missions led by DPKO and DPA supported the organization of landmark elections in Afghanistan, Burundi, Liberia, Iraq and the Democratic Republic of the Congo, which held its first democratic vote in four decades, during which the population approved a draft constitution. Plans for parliamentary elections in Haiti and in the DRC were in the works for early 2006.

Two peacekeeping operations closed—in Sierra Leone and Timor-Leste—having successfully achieved their mandates to solidify peace and help expand and strengthen the authority of democratically elected governments. New

integrated mission offices with mandates of longer-term peacebuilding are under way in both those countries.

In Kosovo, the UN peacekeeping operation worked to hold the local administration to standards of governance to prepare for talks on final status which were to begin in early 2006. In the DRC, UN troops, in a series of operations, progressed dramatically toward restoring stability in Eastern Congo. In Côte d'Ivoire, the mission wrestled with serious challenges to the peace agreement of 2003, but a crisis was averted when all parties accepted Charles Konan Banny as interim prime minister in December. In Georgia, the UN observer mission continued to monitor the ceasefire and promote a political settlement of the conflict.

Regrettably, no progress was made in overcoming the deadlock in Western Sahara, and stalemate persisted in the peace process between Eritrea and Ethiopia.

Other long-standing UN operations remained on the ground in the Middle East, India and Pakistan and Cyprus, continuing to provide much needed stability in their areas of operation.

Nearly two dozen countries contributed uniformed personnel for the first time to UN peace operations, bringing the total number of troop and police contributing countries to 107, with Bangladesh the largest troop contributor by the end of the year (9,758 troops), and the U.S. the largest financial contributor, accounting for 27 percent of peacekeeping's \$5.03 billion budget for July 2005 through June 2006.

The need for long-term efforts to maintain sustainable peace convinced UN Member States at the 2005 Summit to create a Peacebuilding Commission, an advisory body which will work to coordinate and ensure long-term international commitments to countries emerging from conflict.

UN Photo by Martine Perret



Cibitoke woman voting in Burundi election, 7 April 2005

UN establishes Peacebuilding Commission

As a major outcome of reform initiatives endorsed by world leaders at the September Summit, the General Assembly established a new Peacebuilding Commission on 20 December to help rebuild and stabilize countries emerging from conflict. As studies have shown that up to half those countries can relapse into conflict within five years of a peace agreement, this decision could mark a watershed in UN efforts to help states and societies manage the difficult transition from war to peace.

The Commission will for the first time bring together all the major actors concerned with a country emerging from conflict to decide on a long-term peacebuilding strategy. By establishing a link between immediate post-conflict efforts on the one hand and long-term recovery and development efforts on the other, it will fill a previously existing gap in the UN system. The Commission will focus attention on reconstruction and institution-building and improve coordination within and outside the UN system so that international attention does not wane during the crucial post-conflict years.

The Commission, an advisory body, will be made up of 31 members: seven from the Security Council, including the five permanent members; another seven from the Economic and Social Council; five from the top 10 financial contributors to the United Nations; and five from the 10 nations that supply the most troops for peacekeeping missions. Seven others will be chosen to ensure geographical balance by regional groupings. Representatives of the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund and other institutional donors will be expected to attend meetings. Authorities of the country under consideration by the Commission – as well as its neighbors – will also play an active role in the process.

The idea for a Peacebuilding Commission evolved from the perceived need at the UN for a coordinated, coherent and integrated approach to post-conflict peacebuilding and reconciliation. The Commission is expected to address the special needs of individual countries emerging from conflict and to help prevent future conflicts by helping parties to end hostilities and work towards recovery, reconstruction and development and in mobilizing international assistance.

The Commission will be supported by a small Peacebuilding Support Office, which will provide the Commission with the information and analysis needed to coordinate UN's peacebuilding efforts.

The roles of peacekeepers also grew more complex and risky in 2005: robust peacekeeping, including military operations to protect civilians in the DRC and Haiti, also cost lives: 121 peacekeepers died on mission in 2005, including nine Bangladeshi soldiers killed in an ambush in the DRC in February.

The peacekeeping community also confronted the ugly specter of sexual exploitation and abuse by peacekeepers, which Under-Secretary-General Jean-Marie Guéhenno has called “one of the most shameful episodes in UN peacekeeping.” Enforcing the Secretary-General’s zero tolerance policy on sexual exploitation and abuse became a major priority for DPKO and the entire Organization during 2005, which began implementing a wide range of recommendations proposed by the Secretary-General’s special advisor on the issue, Jordan’s Prince Zeid Ra’ad Al-Hussein.

The UN Secretariat continued to improve its capacity to deploy peacekeeping operations immediately upon a peace agreement. Although proposals for a reserve military force did not win Member States’ approval at the 2005 World Summit, its Outcome Document did authorize the creation of a standing, on-call police capacity.

Peacekeeping missions became increasingly “integrated” during the past year, with Deputy Special Representatives of the Secretary-General in several missions doubling as UN Resident Coordinators, ensuring that the humanitarian and development aspects of a post-conflict situation—and the relevant UN agencies—were progressively better coordinated with the peacekeeping operation.

Two major studies in 2005—one by the US’ Rand Corporation and another by the University of British Columbia—credited UN peace operations with helping to reduce conflict and build

stable nations. The Human Security Report, wrote one of its UBC authors, showed that the UN has “played a critical role in enhancing global security.”

The International Crisis Group in its end of the year “CrisisWatch” cited four conflict situations that had improved at the end of 2005: three of these were the sites of UN peace operations—the DRC, Côte d’Ivoire and Afghanistan.

During a year of growth and renewed reliance on UN peace operations, the UN’s objective has been to improve its capacities to deploy quickly and efficiently, fulfill its mandates with a unique range of expertise and a “duty of care” for the host population and create an effective and cost-efficient basis for sustainable peace. Facing new and ever growing challenges, the Organization will continue the implementation of reforms aimed at further improving the way it plans, deploys and sustains peace operations. ■

Sierra Leone: A success story in peacekeeping

The UN Mission in Sierra Leone (UNAMSIL) completed its mandate in December, ending six years of peacekeeping in the country. UNAMSIL's achievements may serve as a model for successful peacekeeping, as well as a prototype for the UN's new emphasis on peacebuilding.

In 1999, UN peacekeepers moved into Sierra Leone to oversee a feeble peace process which included monitoring a shaky ceasefire and supporting a transition to democratic governance. Since then, the UN has helped the war-ravaged country to make impressive gains towards peace, demonstrating how the world body can respond to the needs and demands of countries emerging from conflict in a rapidly changing global environment.

Over the course of its mandate, the UN disarmed more than 75,000 ex-fighters, including about 7,000 child soldiers; assisted in holding national and local government elections, which enabled people to participate in decisions that affected their daily lives; helped to rebuild the country's police force to its pre-war strength and contributed

towards rehabilitating the infrastructure and bringing government services to local communities.

The UN also helped the government stop illicit trading in diamonds and regulate the industry. During the war, rebels had used money from "blood" or "conflict" diamonds to buy weapons which then fuelled the conflict. Now diamonds have become an engine of growth, with government income from diamonds soaring from just \$10 million in 2000 to \$160 million in 2004, according to the International Monetary Fund figures.

UNAMSIL was not always foreseen to succeed: at one point, in May 2000, the mission nearly collapsed when the rebel Revolutionary United Front (RUF) kidnapped hundreds of peacekeepers and renounced the ceasefire in a move that endangered the credibility of UN peacekeeping. Outraged by the chaos that followed, the international community put pressure on the rebels to obey the ceasefire and slapped sanctions against RUF sponsors. Subsequently, UNAMSIL launched new mediation efforts and brought the two

adversaries back to the negotiation table. It brought in more troops to monitor the ceasefire and began disarming fighters from both sides. The United Kingdom, which had sent a force to restore peace following RUF's breach of the ceasefire, later started restructuring the army while UNAMSIL and other international partners concentrated on training the local police force.

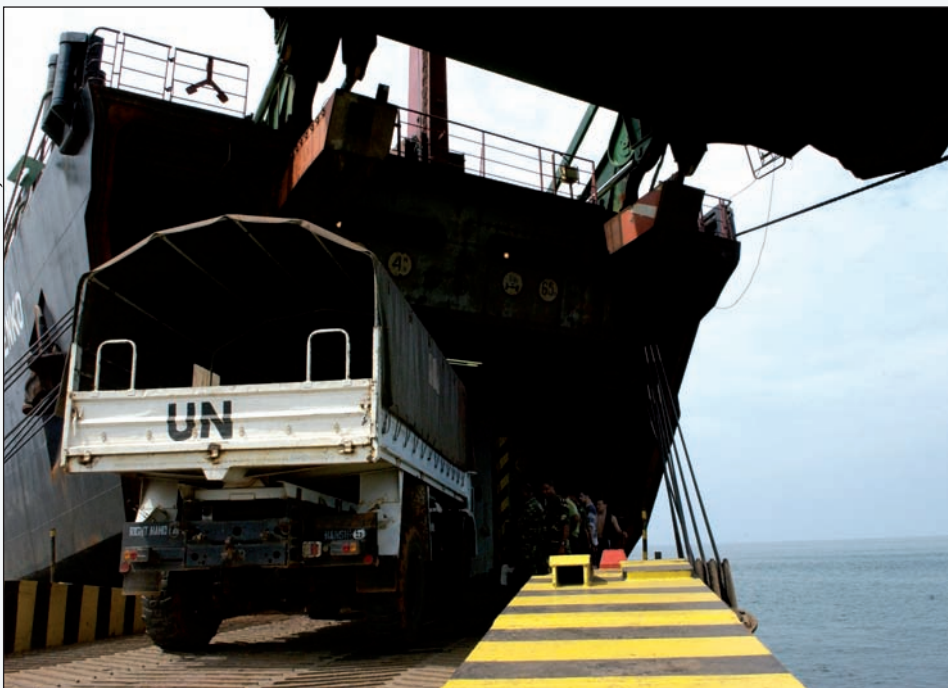
UNAMSIL's withdrawal marked the completion of most of the tasks assigned it by the Security Council. The mission assisted the voluntary return of more than half a million refugees and internally displaced persons. It helped the government restore its authority and social services in areas previously controlled by rebels, recruited and trained about 4,000 police personnel with the help of a team of officers from Commonwealth countries, and constructed and renovated dozens of police stations. Meanwhile, the UK continued to assist the government restructure the army.

UNAMSIL monitored and trained dozens of Sierra Leoneans in human rights and was instrumental in setting up the Special Court for Sierra Leone to try those most responsible for war crimes. The mission also assisted the government in setting up a Truth and Reconciliation Commission, tasked with healing the wounds of war by bringing together perpetrators and victims of atrocities.

Working together with UN agencies, the mission launched quick-impact and income-generating projects to provide jobs to thousands of unemployed youths and ex-fighters and basic services to local communities. UNAMSIL troops reconstructed schools and clinics, launched and funded agricultural projects and sponsored free medical clinics in far-flung areas.

As a sign of continued international community confidence in the future of

UNAMSIL Photo by Eric Kanalstein



Vehicles are loaded onto the Ukrainian freighter "Kataryn Zelenko," departing Sierra Leone – 12 October 2005

Sierra Leone, donors pledged \$800 million in aid at a conference held in London in November to raise money for development. Economic revival is also being boosted by returning refugees and other displaced persons eager to rebuild their communities. Former ghost towns like Kono and Tongo Fields are now havens of commercial activities, as diamond-producing areas attract thousands of young people. Since 2002, the economy has expanded at an average of about 7 per cent, and the IMF predicts future growth of 6-7 per cent per year if the political and economic situation remains stable.

Despite the optimism over the gains UNAMSIL has brought, Sierra Leone still faces many challenges: the country remains fragile, and as the Truth and Reconciliation Commission warned, it has to take concrete steps to address the root causes of the conflict and cultivate a culture of human rights in order for peace to be sustainable. The economy is heavily dependent on donor funds. A disproportionate share of income from diamond mining still finds its way into private hands, rather than Government coffers. Despite ongoing reintegration programmes, thousands of ex-combatants and youths – many of whom never went to school – are unemployed. In short, the peace has yet to produce tangible economic dividends and social benefits for the majority of the country's 4.8 million people.

To help meet these challenges, the newly created UN Integrated Office for Sierra Leone (UNIOSIL) was to take over from UNAMSIL beginning in January 2006. Its mandate is to cement UNAMSIL's gains. The new office will help the Government strengthen human rights, realize the Millennium Development Goals, improve transparency and hold free and fair elections in 2007. It will also work together with other UN agencies and missions in the sub-region and provide security for the Special Court. ■

Liberia: Elections mark historic turning point



UNMIL Photo by Eric Kamalstein

Liberians count ballots after polls closed, Monrovia, Liberia, 10 November 2005

Liberians made history in November when they voted into office Africa's first elected woman head of state, Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf, under the watchful eye of UN peacekeepers. The elections, described by international observers as generally free and fair, marked an important landmark in the struggle for peace in this war-ravaged country as people opted for ballots over bullets.

The 11 October national elections and the subsequent presidential run-off on 8 November, which pitted Johnson-Sirleaf, a former World Bank economist and George Weah, a one-time FIFA International Footballer of the Year, were the result of a peace process that began with the signing of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement in August 2003, bringing to an end a 14-year civil war that had turned a once prosperous country into one of the world's poorest.

Voter turnout was overwhelming. In the first round, 75 percent of the 1.35 million registered voters showed up at the polls, with the figure dropping slightly in the run-off presidential elections, which Johnson-Sirleaf won con-

vincingly, taking 60 per cent of the total votes cast. The huge voter turnout was a rousing testimony to the people's desire for peace and an end to the cycle of violence and instability.

The UN Mission in Liberia (UNMIL), with a 15,000-strong peacekeeping force, played a critical role in all facets of the elections. It provided the National Elections Commission (NEC), which conducted the elections, with technical advice and gave extensive logistical assistance, which enabled the NEC to cover all parts of the country in the face of a destroyed infrastructure and virtually no means of communication. UNMIL provided security throughout the elections process. Despite security concerns as well as lack of accommodation and office space in areas where electoral staff were deployed, UNMIL gradually overcame these difficulties, setting up electoral offices throughout the country.

Due to the high illiteracy rate in the country, the next major challenge was educating the electorate on registering to vote and then on voting in the elections. Civic educators fanned out to

all parts of the country equipped with flip charts, flyers and posters explaining the voting process. So did cultural groups (musicians, dancers and comedians), entertaining village and townspeople while at the same time conveying crucial messages. Sporting events organized by UNMIL, especially football matches, and major musical concerts with artists from Liberia and neighbouring countries attracted large crowds, offering a perfect setting for passing on critical messages. UNMIL distributed thousands of T-shirts, flyers and posters depicting election messages.

Throughout the process, the Mission's 24-hour radio station filled Liberia's airwaves with information and educational messages, galvanizing the population to welcome the elections as an opportunity to chart a new course for the country. Skits, drama performances, live audience and magazine shows, talks and discussions as well as features and documentaries were among the daily fare.

Despite the numerous challenges faced by electoral officials, the registration exercise was completed with a record 1.35 million voters, half of whom were women, out of a population of an estimated 3 million. They included more than 61,000 internally displaced persons.

For the elections, UNMIL hired and trained thousands of Liberian poll workers as crowd controllers, identification officers, ballot paper issuers, ballot box controllers and ink providers to assist at the 3,070 polling places scattered across the country. It was a daunting task, made more challenging by the high illiteracy rate, particularly in rural areas.

UNMIL's peacekeepers helped move election materials to polling places across the country by truck, helicopter and even ship to coastal areas that could not be reached by land. In some areas, porters carried ballots for miles in wheel barrows. The peacekeepers,

along with the Mission's police officers and the local police force trained by UNMIL, also kept round-the-clock vigil to maintain a secure environment on the election days.

On 11 October, voters began queuing as early as 2 a.m. to cast their ballots at polling stations set up in churches, schools, dilapidated public buildings and even tents and rural huts. Some carried benches to sit on and umbrellas to shield themselves from rain and sun. Queues spilled out of the voting precincts winding through streets. More than 3,500 national and 421 international observers, including former US President Jimmy Carter, who monitored Liberia's first post-war elections, endorsed the exercise as free and fair.

"At all polling places I visited, I was struck by the patience, the determination, and the friendliness displayed by all Liberians as they set about exercising this most precious right and responsibility," said Alan Doss, head of UNMIL and UN Secretary-General's Special

Representative, after visiting polling stations across the country.

By ushering in participatory democracy through free and fair elections, Liberia has turned a new page in its history. For a country that has known only war for a long time, this was an extraordinary political breakthrough, and a tribute to the international rescue operation led by the UN.

However, the economic challenges in 2006 facing Liberians are enormous. The national budget has shrunk to a fraction of its pre-war levels. Liberia owes about \$3 billion in foreign debt. Four in five Liberians are unemployed. The infrastructure is so badly damaged that even the capital Monrovia has had no piped water or electricity for more than a decade. It will take huge international investments to rebuild the country. And no one appreciates the magnitude of the problem more than its newly elected leader, who spent most of her career helping other countries develop their economies. Her country is now in urgent need of her experience. ■



Villagers read instructional material during pre-election sensitization, Madikoma, Liberia, 16 September 2005

UNMIL Photo by Eric Kandstein

Burundi: A major breakthrough in peacekeeping

The UN's work in Burundi in 2005 may be considered a success in peacekeeping and a vital demonstration of the importance of strong and sustained international support for a nascent post-conflict democracy. Established in June 2004 to support a political transition to an era of democracy and national reconciliation, the UN Operation in Burundi (ONUB) in 2005 conducted intense electoral assistance activities culminating in the presidential election of 19 August.

An ambitious electoral timetable was drawn up by the Independent National Electoral Commission at the request of the Great Lakes Regional Peace Initiative on Burundi, a group of mediators which includes, among others, Uganda, Tanzania, Rwanda and the Democratic Republic of the Congo. The Burundian electoral marathon comprised six separate elections over a period of seven months, beginning with a constitutional referendum in February and ending in September with elections at the village level.

During the period of elections, ONUB provided support for the electoral process in the form of logistics, transport of ballot boxes and papers throughout the country, and voter education through public information activities.

While the western part of the country continued to be affected by repeated attacks by the Palipehutu-FNL (Forces de Liberation Nationale) rebels, the UN helped with the organization of the first elections since 1993. After twelve years of civil war which caused great suffering, the population was determined to participate and turned out massively in February, voting overwhelmingly in favour of the post-transition constitution. Out of 3.3 million registered voters, 92 per cent exercised their civil right, with 90 per cent casting a "yes" vote.



UN Photo by Martine Perret

CNDD-FDD man surrendering his weapons to the UN registration desk, near Macamba, Burundi, 3 February 2005

Three months later, on 3 June, voters again turned out in large numbers, giving a landslide victory to Pierre Nkurunziza's Conseil National pour la Défense de la Démocratie-Forces pour la Défense de la Démocratie (CNDD-FDD) in the communal elections, which won 93 of the 129 communes.

On 4 July, voters once again went to the polls to elect members of the National Assembly. On 29 July, an electoral college of commune and provincial councils indirectly elected members of the Senate. Lawmakers were also selected in order to ensure a balance in the gender and ethnic representation in the Parliament, as required under the constitution. Four of the country's former heads of state, and representatives from the Hutu, Tutsi and Twa ethnic communities were amongst the selected senators.

On 19 August, a joint session of members of the National Assembly and the Senate overwhelmingly elected Pierre Nkurunziza of the CNDD-FDD as the

new President of Burundi. The last in the series of elections was conducted at the village level in September.

The success of the peace process led to an influx of some 55,000 Burundian refugees in 2005 – mainly from Tanzania, and thousands of internally displaced persons also returned to their communities of origin. UN agencies made significant contributions to help the country address this new challenge. The UN refugee agency, UNHCR, supported the returns and rehabilitated and built schools, houses and health centres.

The UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) provided assistance such as stationery to schools; the World Food Programme (WFP) opened school canteens, continued food-for-work projects and provided food aid to vulnerable populations in the northern provinces, where there were food shortages.

ONUB's activities have included: supporting the disarmament and demobi-

lization of combatants; protection of human rights and strengthening the police and judiciary. Through its quick impact projects, the mission has addressed some local needs by building community centres and schools and providing assistance to needy children and former child soldiers.

With the establishment of a democratically-elected Government, ONUB's mandate is to change during 2006. A gradual withdrawal of peacekeepers, which began in December, is expected to continue. However, nationwide peace continues to be elusive, since the Palipehutu-FNL rebel group had yet to agree to a ceasefire and to commence peace talks.

Meanwhile, the new Government has to grapple with the daunting tasks of rebuilding an economy left in shambles by the decade-long, war and reconciling ethnic communities torn apart by the fratricidal conflict and deep-rooted mistrust.

It must work to integrate the country's economic and social fabric, resettle the massive influx of refugees encouraged to return home by the prospects of peace, provide employment to former combatants and *gardiens de la paix*, and find resources to deliver on the promise of free primary education for all.

Most of these challenges can be met only with the continued assistance of the international community. To consolidate the gains of the peace process, ONUB will continue working closely with the new government, focusing its activities on promoting human rights and helping to establish a National Truth and Reconciliation Commission, a vital step in the promoting national reconciliation.

It will also help train the national police force and assist security sector reform. The Burundi Partners Forum will also play an important role in mobilizing international support for Burundi's nascent democracy. ■

Haiti: MINUSTAH prepares for overdue elections

Despite progress achieved in preparing for elections and in establishing a safe and secure environment, the Transitional Government and the UN Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH) were confronted with serious political and security challenges during 2005. State institutions remained generally weak; and lack of resources continued to hinder local authorities from functioning smoothly, with negative effects on the State's credibility. In some areas, disbanded local authorities remained in place, and violence by criminal gangs continued.

While throughout the year electoral preparations were faced with substantial technical difficulties and several postponements of the election dates, the registration of parties, candidates and voters included a relatively wide range of Haitian political opinion. This enhanced the credibility of the electoral process and the possibilities for a broad debate regarding the future of Haiti.

Remarkably, the registration of voters was a resounding success. Over a period stretching for five months, more than 3.5

million Haitians, out of an estimated maximum 4.5 million eligible voters, registered to vote in the elections at the 450 centres established nationwide, including in the slum of Cité Soleil.

The registration of 35 presidential candidates and 42 political parties gives an idea of the breadth of the Haitian political spectrum. Their participation in the electoral process symbolised the commitment by a majority of Haitians to take part in the democratic process. Recognizing the importance of dialogue among different political parties, MINUSTAH succeeded in getting political parties to agree on codes of conduct against corruption and not to use violence for political purposes.

The Provisional Electoral Council announced in late November that it was again postponing the country's first elections since President Jean-Bertrand Aristide was forced out of office in February 2004. The Council called for presidential and legislative elections, to be held in early 2006, to be



MINUSTAH's Office of Public Information and the Electoral Assistance Section hold a session at the Petionville High School for teenagers in order to introduce and discuss the upcoming elections. Students read pamphlets describing MINUSTAH's role in Haiti, 11 December 2005

UN Photo by Sophia Paris

followed by a possible run-off in February and local and municipal elections in March. The Prime Minister announced that the Transitional Government would resign on 7 February, but would carry out ongoing business until the naming of a new Prime Minister [elections were held on 7 February, 2006].

The different postponements in the electoral calendar were the result an array of factors ranging from the crumbling infrastructure in the country to the weaknesses of the Provisional Electoral Council (CEP). The latter, however, were largely addressed through the appointment in October of a Director-General and the adoption of a decree spelling out the division of responsibilities within it.

Throughout 2005, MINUSTAH was providing extensive logistical and technical assistance to the CEP in organizing the elections with a view to ensure the credibility of the process. By the end of the year, the mission had deployed dozens of senior trainers in the provinces to train 1,325 electoral agents and 809 polling station supervisors. The electoral agents, in turn, were expected to train over 37,000 polling station personnel.

Hundreds of electoral observers from different international organizations and countries had started arriving in Haiti, expecting to contribute to the conduct of free and fair elections. Their presence, alongside local election observers, was to help to prevent, report and correct election irregularities, particularly given concerns over possible links between political parties and armed groups, questions over the independence of electoral workers, and other technical issues which could impede voter access and the transparency of the voting and counting processes.

Inside the country, the overall security situation also improved, despite gang violence that continued to threaten the public in many areas. While outside



UN Photo by Sophia Paris

MINUSTAH Public Information staff interviewing a local resident of Cite Soleil, Haiti, 30 November 2005

Port-au-Prince the security situation became relatively calm following MINUSTAH operations, the situation in the capital remained fragile.

Kidnappings surged in Port-au-Prince during the spring and became a major source of income, affecting victims of all ages and economic backgrounds, despite several operations by MINUSTAH and the Haitian National Police to arrest suspected kidnappers and free their victims.

The lack of strong and professional rule of law institutions remain one of the biggest challenges facing Haiti.

To counter the violence, MINUSTAH reinforced its troop numbers to its authorized strength of 6,700 and later in the year to almost 7,500, following a Security Council decision to increase the number of peacekeepers in view of the many security threats linked to the electoral process.

Over the summer, the situation in Port-au-Prince improved substantially in the Bel-Air area, where MINUSTAH and the Haitian National Police (HNP) established a permanent security presence. However, the slum of

Cité Soleil, another hotspot in the capital, continued to pose a serious security threat, and several peacekeepers were killed or wounded in shooting incidents over the course of the year.

The HNP remained weak despite MINUSTAH's efforts to reform and restructure the force. Of particular concern was the pattern of alleged serious misconduct of HNP officers, including their alleged involvement in the summary execution of at least nine people on 20 August at a football game in Port-au-Prince.

In addition to political and security problems, Haiti also continued to face economic catastrophe. Massive unemployment, a high illiteracy rate and a destroyed infrastructure have combined to make Haiti one of the poorest countries in the world.

There is no doubt Haiti was at a critical juncture at the end of the year. High voter registration, however, and the presence of candidates representing a broad range of opinion had improved the prospects for credible elections in early 2006. MINUSTAH made progress in handling urgent security threats. Nevertheless, the gains remained fragile. ■

Côte d'Ivoire: Peace efforts move on despite a succession of delays

The UN and its partners in the international community continued efforts to move Côte d'Ivoire's peace process forward, encourage the parties to the conflict to reach a negotiated agreement, avoid violence and end the three-year-old conflict in the West African nation.

A May 2003 ceasefire monitored by the UN Operation in Côte d'Ivoire (UNOCI) and the French Licorne forces, continued to hold, with no major violations of the UN-imposed arms embargo. However, the target dates by which combatants were to be disarmed, demobilized and reintegrated into society were not met, nor was the deadline for a presidential election, which constitutionally, should have been held by 30 October 2005. The country remained divided. The Forces

Nouvelles former rebel movement retained control over the north of the country, while the south remained under governmental control. UN peacekeepers and French forces maintained peace along the Zone of Confidence separating the two sides.

In June, the Security Council authorized an increase in UNOCI's military strength by 850 troops, bringing the Mission's military strength to just over 7,000. It also raised the number of UN police officers to 725.

A sign of hope emerged in April when the Ivorian parties, at a meeting convened by South Africa's President Thabo Mbeki, the African Union mediator, signed the Pretoria Agreement, which addressed a number of con-

tentious issues on elections and disarmament. Under the accord, the two sides agreed not to veto the presidential candidates put forward by the signatories of the Linas-Marcoussis Accord, of January 2003. The Pretoria Agreement also included a timetable to disarm the former rebels and dismantle pro-government militias.

The Pretoria Agreement breathed new momentum into the peace process, and both former rebel and government forces withdrew heavy weapons from the frontline on each side of the Zone of Confidence. However, the momentum was, short-lived. In June, the Forces Nouvelles announced that it would not disarm until pro-government militias laid down their weapons, thus delaying the peace process. A new



UN Photo by Ky Chung

Ivorian police cadets respond to commands at the inauguration ceremony of their new training centre. These police officers will provide security at DDR sites during the disarmament process, 5 August 2005

timetable for disarmament was set when the two sides met again in Pretoria in June and approved an agreement urging international sanctions against anyone obstructing peace. However, once again the parties failed to implement the provisions of the Pretoria Agreement.

By September, it had become clear that elections could not be held by the end of October 2005 as scheduled. Combatants had not disarmed; the registration of voters had been held up and the country was still divided. As the deadline approached, new disagreements emerged over presidential decrees and the work and composition of the Independent Electoral Commission.

With a missed electoral deadline and the threat of a constitutional vacuum looming, leaders of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and the AU agreed to extend President Laurent Gbagbo's term of office for a year. Significant powers would be entrusted to a Prime Minister – acceptable to all parties – who would oversee a power-sharing government and the transition to fresh elections by October 2006. ECOWAS and the AU also created two new bodies, the International Working Group and a Mediation Group to oversee the peace process, with both bodies co-chaired by the UN Special Representative in Côte d'Ivoire. The Security Council endorsed these decisions in October.

The International Working Group was established to evaluate and monitor the peace process and to ensure that all Ivorian parties respect their commitments. The group also was to act as a guarantor and impartial arbitrator of the peace and reconciliation process leading to elections before 31 October 2006. In early December, the Chairperson of the African Union, President Olusegun Obasanjo of Nigeria; the Chairperson of ECOWAS, President Mamadou Tandja of Niger; and the African Union Mediator, President Mbeki brokered the appointment of Charles Konan Banny, the governor of the Central



UN Photo by Ky Chung

Ivorian reggae star Alpha Blondy becomes UNOCI's first Musician for Peace and accepts his nomination at a ceremony marking the fourth International Day of Peace, Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, 21 September 2005

Bank for West African States, as the new Prime Minister.

The Ivorian crisis has affected the population in many ways: thousands lost their jobs, poverty deepened, political violence spread, and social cohesion has been disrupted. UNOCI documented human rights abuses by armed individuals, groups and forces throughout the country.

Continuing ethnic clashes limited UNOCI's capacity to help. Violence in government-controlled areas in the villages of Guitrozon and Petit Duékoué led to restrictions on UNOCI's freedom of movement. Pro-government supporters barred UN peacekeepers and Licorne forces from entering some villages and towns, thus hampering their operations. In July the obstructions spread to the south after unidentified assailants attacked the towns of Agboville and Anyama, sparking fears that the peace process might unravel. The Forces Nouvelles also restricted the movement of peacekeepers in areas under its control.

In the latter months of 2005, a number of senior UN officials visited Côte d'Ivoire, each time highlighting the

need to resolve the crisis. UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, Louise Arbour, visited in July and called for an end to the reign of terror, fuelled by impunity, by both sides. During her visit, UN Deputy Secretary-General, Louis Frechette, raised awareness of sexual exploitation and abuse, while the chairman of the UN Sanctions Committee on Côte d'Ivoire, Adamantios Vassilakis, warned leaders that sanctions would be imposed against anyone obstructing the peace process. The Special Adviser of the Secretary-General for the Prevention of Genocide Juan Mendes, also visited Côte d'Ivoire and expressed concern that ongoing tensions could lead to further serious human rights violations.

Despite setbacks in the Ivorian peace process in 2005, optimism remained that Côte d'Ivoire's new roadmap – drawn up by the International Working Group – would move the country out of the current impasse of no-war-no-peace and result in the disarmament of combatants, dismantlement of militias, restoration of State authority throughout the country, and, ultimately, to the holding of national elections by October 2006. ■

Sudan: New mission deploys, provides assistance to the African Union in Darfur

Three important events dominated the political landscape of Sudan in 2005: the signing of the historic Comprehensive Peace Agreement, ending a 21-year civil war in the southern Sudan between the Government and the Sudan Peoples' Liberation Movement/Army (SPLM/A); the establishment of the UN Mission in Sudan (UNMIS) to assist in implementing the Agreement; and the unexpected death of SPLM/A leader John Garang, three weeks after he was sworn in as Sudan's First Vice President.

The news of Garang's death in a helicopter crash on 30 July sparked off violent riots that left dozens of people dead and destroyed property in Khartoum and several other areas including Juba and Malakal in southern Sudan. The riots threatened to undo not only the gains made since the signing of the peace accord in January, but also the stability of the Government. The SPLM moved swiftly to confirm Salva Kiir as Garang's successor, and as stipulated in the peace accord, he also became Sudan's First Vice President and President of the semi-autonomous government of Southern Sudan.

Under the terms of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement, the South will be autonomous for six years after which it will hold a referendum to decide whether to secede or remain under a unitary state. Oil revenues and other resources will be shared equally between the Government and the South. The political system of the Khartoum government will be restructured on principles of democracy and respect for human rights. And the two armies will merge if the South decides against secession in six years. These are no doubt enormous challenges that will require full mobilization of the institutional capacity, human resources and political will by both parties.

A Government of National Unity finally took office on 22 September, after

delays in implementing the Peace Agreement caused by Garang's death and disagreements over the allocation of cabinet posts between the Government and the SPLM. In December, the Government of Southern Sudan was established after the adoption of the interim constitution of Southern Sudan.

The establishment of the Government of National Unity and positive developments in Southern Sudan despite Garang's death gave momentum to the implementation of the peace accord. Yet, UNMIS faced mounting challenges in launching such a large and complex operation in a country roughly the size of Western Europe, and as of 13 December, it had deployed about 4,300 military personnel out of its authorized strength of 10,000 troops.

While UNMIS worked to increase its peacekeeping presence in Sudan, the mission also started, along with UN agencies, assisting the country to resolve ongoing conflicts, promoting social reconciliation and encouraging dialogue as well as identifying the needs of the new Government. The UN and

its international partners agreed to provide technical support to help in setting up key commissions to assist with the implementation of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement. In August, the Government set up the Ceasefire Political Commission to supervise, monitor and oversee implementation of the Agreement, as well as to provide a political forum for discussions between the parties and the international community.

UNMIS was also providing good offices and political support to the numerous efforts being made to resolve the ongoing conflicts in the country. The Sudanese Government, with the support of UNMIS, UNDP and UNICEF, was finalizing plans to disarm, demobilize and reintegrate combatants under a programme tailored to pay special attention to the needs of child soldiers, women and the disabled associated with the various armed groups. There has also been a steady flow of funds for the disarmament programme from several donor countries.

The Comprehensive Peace Agreement, however, did little to ease the crisis in



Peacekeepers from Bangladesh busy with road construction work in Juba, Sudan, 18 July 2005.

UNMIS Photo by John Charles

the Darfur region where two local rebel groups, the Justice and Equality Movement and the Sudanese Liberation Movement/Army, were still fighting Government forces and allied militia groups. The rebels took up arms in 2003, claiming neglect and marginalization in the country's political and economic life. Mass killings, attacks on villages and rapes had left tens of thousands of people dead and more than 2 million fled their homes into refugee camps in Darfur and neighbouring Chad.

Outraged by the continued killings and mass displacement of whole villages, the African Union Mission in Sudan (AMIS), supported by logistics from the UN and funds from the European Union, the United States, NATO and other donors, increased its deployment of ceasefire monitors to more than 6,300 troops to help end the crisis in Darfur. UNMIS assisted the AU monitors in planning and providing technical advice through the UN Assistance Cell to the AU, based in

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The UN was also working closely with other international partners to facilitate the AU Commission's efforts to get resources and other needs for AMIS.

In addition to monitoring the fragile ceasefire in the Darfur region, the AU also stepped up efforts to broker a deal to end the fighting between the rebel groups. However, despite several rounds of talks in Abuja, Nigeria, a solution remained elusive as divisions within the rebels widened. To give backing to the AU's mediation efforts, UNMIS met with political and military commanders of both armed movements to encourage political flexibility in the negotiations and greater political will to reach an agreement at the Abuja talks. UNMIS has also been supporting the reconciliation process in Darfur by maintaining contacts with local civil society groups and encouraging them to support the Abuja negotiations. As part of the reconciliation drive, UNDP and academic institutions in Darfur have been run-

ning a series of seminars on the rule of law and on conflict resolution. However, in late 2005, the situation in Darfur has become more complex with the proliferation of armed groups and bandits and the entry of Chadian rebels and army deserters assembling in Darfur to attack Chad.

As 2005 came to an end, the Government of National Unity continued to face several challenges. It had to end conflicts in the east, south and west of the country, particularly the ongoing instability in Darfur, which remained a threat to the overall security situation in Sudan and the region. Both parties to the peace accord would need to show the necessary political will required to implement the Comprehensive Peace Agreement, as they were already falling behind schedule in meeting its timetable. Sudan also faced serious challenges in delivering the dividends of peace that would convince its people, particularly the Southerners, of the merits of peace and unity. ■

DR Congo: Robust posture hastens political process

In 2005, the UN Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUC) took a series of important steps in supporting the country's transitional political process and changing the overall scope of UN peacekeeping.

With an authorized strength of 16,700 uniformed personnel under Security Council resolution 1565, the mission began the year with the establishment of the first multinational divisional headquarters in UN peacekeeping history. (Most peacekeeping missions operate as a single division.) Based in the north central city of Kisangani, MONUC's Eastern Division began operations in February, overseeing a brigade with four battalions in Ituri District, and two more brigades in the two Kivu provinces.

MONUC's Divisional Headquarters in the troubled region of Ituri carried out

a pilot disarmament and community reintegration programme, which the DRC Transitional Government had launched in late 2004 in conjunction

with MONUC and UNDP. By mid-April, some 15,000 militiamen had been disarmed and 7,000 weapons recovered. To support the stabilization



MONUC Photo

First training and deployment of the integrated brigade of the Armed Forces of Congo, crossing the river into Lituri, Kisangani, DR Congo, 29 November 2005

and continue applying pressure on the estimated 2,000-strong remnants of Ituri armed groups, MONUC subsequently created the Ituri Task Force of UN peacekeepers and the Congolese army, Forces Armées de la République Démocratique du Congo (FARDC), with the capacity to conduct “robust” peace operations anywhere in the district.

The creation of a fully-fledged army and police force was among the DRC's most pressing needs. In 2005, MONUC trained six army brigades and 18,000 Congolese police officers. The first phase of integrating the new army was completed at the year's end with the deployment of the sixth integrated FARDC brigade.

In a partial victory for the peace process, on 31 March, the Rwandan Hutu insurgent group, the Democratic Forces for the Liberation of Rwanda (FDLR), which had been operating in the Kivus, denounced the 1994 Rwandan genocide and pledged to return home peacefully. MONUC swiftly set up six assembly areas in the Kivus, but FDLR members did not surrender in significant numbers. In June, the FDLR leadership subsequently split, delaying the full repatriation of the rebels to Rwanda.

At the end of June, the Transitional Government announced its intention to forcibly disarm FDLR combatants operating in the east. Using its mandate to protect civilians, MONUC peacekeepers and government forces launched a series of joint robust military operations that attempted to flush out the rebels and clear their camps. These operations while achieving some impressive results, did not complete the full repatriation of the foreign armed groups. At several points throughout the year, intensified action by MONUC peacekeepers in Ituri and the Kivus drew retaliatory fire from would-be spoilers and hostile combatants. Thirteen blue helmets were killed in combat in 2005, while dozens of others suffered injuries. The most deadly incident happened on 25 February when nine MONUC peacekeepers from



MONUC Moroccan contingent doctors treat refugees in Che, Ituri after they fled their homes due to violent militia fighting 4 February 2005.

Bangladesh, who were on a routine foot patrol to protect a camp of some 8,000 internally displaced persons, were killed in a well-planned and coordinated ambush at Kafé, some 80 kilometers north of Bunia on Lake Albert.

MONUC's strong mandate coupled with a high level of international support facilitated in 2005 what would have seemed impossible just a few years earlier: more than 24 million Congolese registered to vote. Between June and December, MONUC provided the country's Independent Electoral Commission with logistical, technical and advisory expertise. Voter registration kits were distributed to 9,000 registration centres throughout even the most remote corners of the DRC, a country the size of Western Europe. Some materials were even transported by canoe. The commitment of MONUC troops further allayed widespread fears that internal strife and violence would derail the registration. In Ituri, almost 90 percent of the electorate registered, while seven out of the DRC's 11 provinces completed the registration process. Significantly also on 18 and 19

December, polling for the constitutional referendum took place in the absence of serious security incidents, marking a turning point in the history of the country, as it represented the first opportunity for the Congolese people to choose their system of governance in over 40 years.

While peacekeepers ensured safety where they were deployed on the ground, MONUC aviation set new safety records in the sky. The DRC is a vast country with its infrastructure virtually destroyed, and almost all key logistical transport is by air. On 18 October, when MONUC marked its sixth anniversary, the mission had recorded 130,000 hours of safe operations, yet another milestone in UN peacekeeping. With a fleet of 68 aircraft operating from more than 60 airports and airfields, MONUC aviation came to rival commercial carriers and overtook them to become Africa's largest airline. Furthermore, this infrastructure proved indispensable in the transport of electoral kits, cargo and personnel in support of the organization of elections scheduled for 2006.

In the area of mission support and reform, MONUC took the lead

through its implementation of an “integrated mission” concept. Diverse members of the UN family present in the DRC operated in tandem to achieve such results as the repatriation of Congolese refugees from Tanzania and the production of cross-cutting videos and radio programmes designed to educate Congolese citizens while mobilizing funds from the international community.

MONUC meanwhile set a tangible example for future peacekeeping operations with the opening on 1 March of the Office for Addressing Sexual Abuse and Exploitation, the first of its kind in a peacekeeping mission. Eleven staff members worked on policy development, training, and advocacy, and also investigated some 100 civilian and military cases over a six-month period. The efforts of the office resulted in a total of 38 repatriations, dismissals and criminal charges for severe misconduct.

Also, in 2005, Radio Okapi, the joint radio project launched in 2002 by MONUC Public Information and Foundation Hirondelle, a Swiss non-governmental organization, became the largest national radio network not only in the DRC but also in the history of UN peacekeeping. Broadcasting in both FM and shortwave transmission, Radio Okapi’s listenership skyrocketed in all of country’s provinces, including in the capital Kinshasa. As the electoral calendar unfolds in 2006, the radio network, with its credibility established as the “voice of MONUC”, will serve as a key tool in helping validate the democratic electoral process and poll results even in the most isolated corners of the country.

During 2005 MONUC made considerable advances towards meeting its core objectives. Its partners remained optimistic that in 2006, the DRC’s first independent elections in more than 40 years would yield sustainable peace and security, while also attempting to address the war’s legacy through tangible humanitarian and economic development. ■

Kosovo: Status talks get underway

On 24 October, the UN Security Council provided the green light to initiate the process to determine the future status of the ethnically-divided Kosovo. The process began in December under the leadership of Martti Ahtisaari, the UN Special Envoy, thus marking the culmination of a political process lasting six years and signalling, the beginning of the next phase of the life of the UN Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK).

Over the past four years, UNMIK has attempted to implement policy according to the formula “Standards for Kosovo”, more generally known as “standards before status.” Under this arrangement, Kosovo was expected to develop stable democratic institutions under UNMIK administration before any decision could be made on its future status. The standards include promoting human rights, establishing the rule of law and protecting minority rights.

The task was clearly huge, and progress of the fledgling institutions of Kosovo had been inconsistent. However, despite frustration on the part of the majority Kosovo Albanians over lack of progress toward their ultimate goal of independence, there have been some positive developments over the past year. Significant steps have been taken in meeting the “standards”. Whereas security improved, implementation in the area of rule of law was inconsistent. Progress has been particularly slow in the protection of minority rights and return of internally displaced persons.

In October, Ambassador Kai Eide, who was appointed by the UN Secretary-General to review the situation in Kosovo, noted that progress in meeting the standards had been uneven. However, he recommended starting the process leading to the determination of Kosovo’s future status. He cau-

tioned though that “standards” and “status” were not the be-all and end-all of the political process leading to genuine protection of minority rights by the majority population. The Norwegian diplomat warned that political life in Kosovo could not be consumed entirely by status talks, vital as they would be. There was a huge amount of work to be done even as talks proceeded, he emphasized.

Meanwhile, in September, UNMIK started working on six priority areas: continued implementation of the standards, a comprehensive reform of local government, improving security, building local capacity, maintaining a safe and secure environment and restructuring the mission itself.

Progress was already evident in some areas. UNMIK has drawn up a plan to restructure its presence in Kosovo. It initiated informal, technical-level talks with the European Union and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe on contingency planning for possible future arrangements for their involvement in Kosovo following the determination of its future status. The mission started discussions with all Kosovo communities on their future security arrangements. By the end of 2005, the mission will commenced the transfer of some police and justice responsibilities from UNMIK to the new ministries of interior and justice. The transfer of police station management was completed, with all 33 police stations and five of the six regional police headquarters being run by Kosovans at the end of 2005.

While the duration and eventual outcome of status talks remained as yet uncertain, the Security Council decision meant that UNMIK had started down the road which will eventually see it join growing group of successful peacekeeping missions. ■

Ethiopia-Eritrea: Political stalemate continues amid rising tension

The year 2005 saw the stalemate in the Ethiopia-Eritrea peace process becoming more entrenched, and the possibility of an outbreak of war increased as the year came to a close. Though the leadership of UNMEE continued to engage all stakeholders in the peace process in an effort to resolve the deadlock, the two parties remained as polarised as ever. Sustained efforts by the international community to convince Eritrea to engage Ethiopia in dialogue were also in vain. While Ethiopia continued to reject significant parts of the decision of the Eritrea-Ethiopia Boundary Commission (EEBC), Eritrea maintained its rejection of the Five-Point Peace Plan that Ethiopia announced in November 2004.

Two factors further worsened the tension. First, Ethiopia moved its armed forces closer to the Temporary Security Zone (TSZ), between December 2004 and early 2005. Although Ethiopia insisted the change was largely defensive, Eritrea viewed this as an aggressive stance. Ethiopia did not heed Security Council calls to reverse its decision. Then, on 5 October, Eritrea imposed a ban on all UNMEE helicopter flights in its airspace, as well as many night-time patrols by the Mission's vehicles inside the TSZ. The Government said the ban was needed to protect its territory, but the move generated suspicion within the international community – and more so in Ethiopia – as to Eritrea's real intentions.

The helicopter ban immediately reduced the Mission's ability to monitor and observe developments in the TSZ and its capability to warn the international community of any impending danger. In addition, the ban endangered the safety of UNMEE peacekeepers deployed along the TSZ, as it meant that in the event of accidents, medical evacuations by air

were also not possible. UNMEE, joined by the UN Security Council and the Secretary-General, among others, made urgent appeals, in vain, to the Eritrean Government to lift the ban immediately.

In November, the Security Council demanded that Eritrea lift all its restrictions imposed on UNMEE and urged both parties to exercise maximum restraint and to return to the status that existed in December 2004, within 30 days. On 6 December, the Eritrean Government requested that UNMEE staff with nationalities from the US, Canada, Europe and the Russian Federation leave Eritrea within 10 days, a decision which was strongly condemned by the UN. In a statement, the Secretary-General stressed that Eritrea's decision contravened its obligations under the Charter and the fundamental principles of UN peacekeeping.

The helicopter ban forced UNMEE to relocate some of its deployment sites for the safety of peacekeepers and to avoid logistical problems. The deepening stalemate and continued restrictions imposed on UNMEE also forced the Security Council to authorise UNMEE to temporarily relocate some of its personnel from Eritrea to Ethiopia, an operation which was carried out in December.

These difficulties notwithstanding, the Mission continued to focus its work on other important areas. For example, in 2005, UNMEE's humanitarian component began to advocate a more coordinated approach towards the implementation of the quick impact projects, the HIV/AIDS programme, sexual exploitation and abuse training, as well as the inclusion of gender view points in its work. A forum met regularly to coordinate work, exchange information and implement projects. As a

result of its initiatives, the forum took steps to improve management of quick-impact projects, speed up their adoption and get Mission funds with minimum delays.

UNMEE, in collaboration with the International Committee of the Red Cross and the office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, continued to monitor and report human rights cases involving vulnerable groups such as children and women, especially abductions, disappearances and border crossing in the TSZ and surrounding areas.



Deminers of the Bangladeshi Contingent hard at work as part of UNMEE's Integrated Demining Operations in the Temporary Security Zone, Eritrea, 19 June 2005

In response to the stalemate, UNMEE increased its public information activities by reaching communities on both sides of the border to raise awareness of UN days and the issues they represent. These activities were carried out in both capitals as well as in the Sectors,

UNMEE Photo by Helena Milkertis

where they were received most enthusiastically by the public.

UNMEE's work to clear landmines in the TSZ has been largely successful. In 2005, UNMEE formed an "integrated" approach to clearing landmines, combining the Mission's military resources with those of a private demining contractor, Mechem of South Africa. Mechem's use of mechanical techniques and mine detection dogs complemented the manual demining expertise of the peacekeepers. This ini-

tiative led to an immediate, significant rise in mine clearance at a much lower operational cost. So far UNMEE has cleared millions of square metres of minefields in some of the most heavily mined areas of the TSZ. The land has been returned to the local population for farming and occupancy. UNMEE's unique approach to integrated demining could serve as a model for future UN peace operations, and has already been adopted by the UN mission in Sudan.

For UNMEE, 2005 began with a note of concern over the increased Ethiopian troop strength close to the border. The year ended on an even more disquieting note with the mission's ability to monitor the TSZ degraded by some 60 percent due to the helicopter ban and other restrictions imposed by Eritrea on its ground patrols. The stalemate remained intractable, and a real threat of renewed hostilities existed between Ethiopia and Eritrea, despite calls for restraint by the Security Council. ■

Georgia: UNOMIG police mark two years

The UN Observer Mission in Georgia (UNOMIG) was established by the Security Council in August 1993 to verify the ceasefire agreement between the Government of Georgia and the Abkhaz de-facto authorities in Georgia. Its mandate was expanded following the signing by the parties of the 1994 Agreement on a Ceasefire and Separation of Forces. Being a relatively small mission in a currently generally calm area, UNOMIG has a tendency to be overshadowed by larger, multidimensional missions deployed in volatile situations.

It is often overlooked, however, that UNOMIG has been given one of the most extensive mandates, ranging from pursuing a comprehensive political settlement of the conflict to monitoring the ceasefire and other military arrangements agreed upon by the two parties. Additional responsibilities in the field of human rights and humanitarian activities, as well as recently added certain civilian police functions further enhance the level of complexity of the mission's work.

Since its arrival in Georgia two years ago, a small team of UNOMIG police officers have started to make its presence felt. The officers have gained the trust of the local population by working together with local law enforcement agencies, and have started helping build the capacity of the local police force.

The team of 12 police officers from seven nations operates on the



UNOMIG Photo

Police officers at an event marking the establishment of Georgia's first Policewomen's Association in, Zugdidi-town, Georgia, November 2005

Georgian Government-controlled side of the ceasefire line. Abkhaz authorities, however, continued to refuse a UN police presence on their side of the line.

The mandate of the UN police team includes creating conditions that would encourage the return of refugees and internally displaced persons to their homes left during the

conflict of 1992-1993. UN police officers carry out patrols, train local police on law enforcement and human rights issues, provide equipment and forensic assistance.

The team's biggest achievements to date are in crime prevention and community policing. UN police have set up several crime-prevention committees in cooperation with local and regional

police commanders. With the encouragement of an UNOMIG female police officer, the local police force has set up the Police Women's Association, with the goal of encouraging more women to join the force.

The refusal by Abkhazia to allow the deployment of UN police officers in the Gali region continues to hamper cooperation across the ceasefire line. It has also hindered progress in criminal investigations and has limited the effective-

ness of anti-crime efforts. During his brief visit to Georgia in November, UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan emphasized the importance of ensuring the respect for rule of law and human rights in the conflict zone. ■

Other DPKO-led missions

Other, long-term peacekeeping missions continued to provide valuable measures of stability in areas where sustainable peace has not yet been fully achieved.

A landmark bus service across the Indian-Pakistani ceasefire line in Jammu and Kashmir was inaugurated on 7 April, marking what UN Secretary-General called "a powerful gesture of peace and an opportunity to reunite families divided for nearly 60 years." **The UN Military Observer Group in India and Pakistan (UNMOGIP)** has been observing a ceasefire in disputed state of Jammu and Kashmir since 1949. The state was split between India and Pakistan after they won independence from the United Kingdom in 1947. UNMOGIP also provided assistance to the victims of the powerful earthquake that struck northern Pakistan in October. After 57 years of UN presence, conflict has not resumed, and small steps towards reconciliation have increased.

In **Cyprus**, the situation remained generally calm and stable along ceasefire lines but progress toward a political solution was negligible at best. In 2005, the opening of additional crossing points and small increases in trade between the Greek Cypriot and the Turkish Cypriot communities enhanced opportunities for people-to-people contacts. **The UN Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP)** continued to enjoy generally good cooperation from both sides, although there were no official contacts between them. In June, former UN Under-Secretary-General Kieran Prendergast, traveled to Cyprus, Turkey and Greece for consultations on how best the UN could help bring about a settlement. He recommended that the UN continue to offer its good offices to both sides and that

the Secretary-General appoint a Special Adviser who would engage the parties in exploring common ground needed to resume talks.

In the **Middle East**, the 31-year old **UN Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF)** continued to observe the ceasefire between Israeli and Syrian forces in the Golan Heights, a buffer zone set up after the 1973 Arab-Israeli War. In calling for the renewal of UNDOF's mandate in December, the UN Secretary-General noted that the situation in the Middle East remained tense and was likely to remain so. A comprehensive settlement covering all aspects of the Middle East problem was needed to resolve the situation. In carrying out its mandate, UNDOF was also assisted by military observers from the UN Troop Supervision Organization (UNTSO) based in Jerusalem.

The UN played several roles in Lebanon in 2005. The 40-year old **UN Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL)** continued to monitor a ceasefire to prevent further escalation of sporadic outbreaks of violence that occurred in 2005 between Hezbollah militia in Lebanon and Israel troops along the Blue Line the two countries. Violence along the Blue Line resulted in civilian casualties on both sides. In July, the Security Council extended UNIFIL's mandate, acknowledging that the occasional exchange of fire in the Shab'a farms area in Lebanon showed that the situation remained volatile and fragile and could deteriorate at any time. There was political tension and uncertainty in Lebanon following the assassination of former Prime Minister Rafik Hariri in February. The Secretary-General appointed a **Special Envoy**, Detlev Mehlis, to investigate the assassination. Mehlis' investigation implicated

senior officials in the Syrian and Lebanese security services. On 15 December, the Security Council extended the inquiry into the assassination by a further six months, saying Syria had not cooperated fully with the investigators. In April, Syrian forces withdrew from Lebanon at the request of the Security Council, which was followed by free and fair elections in May and June.

In **Western Sahara**, the **UN Mission for the Referendum of Western Sahara (MINURSO)** continued to play an important stabilizing and ceasefire monitoring role in the region. This was in spite of continued instability as a result of the political impasse between the Moroccan Government and the Frente POLISARIO independence movement, as well as continued violations of their military agreement and alleged human rights abuses. In addition to monitoring a ceasefire, the 14-year old mission is also seeking to organize a referendum in the former Spanish colony which Morocco has claimed as its own, and where the POLISARIO has been fighting for independence. A senior UN envoy, Peter van Walsum, who visited the area in October to break the political deadlock, concluded that the positions of most key players in the Western Sahara dispute were "quasi-irreconcilable", although they all held strong views on the need for a durable solution. While there was progress on removing unexploded mines, and the release of 404 prisoners of war after 20 years of incarceration by the POLISARIO, both sides continued to violate the ceasefire by increasing their military presence in the restricted areas, staging incursions in the buffer zone and restricting movements of the UN military observers. Meanwhile, MINURSO restructured its military posts by decreasing some stations while simultaneously increasing the number of military observers. ■

Afghanistan: Beyond the Bonn Agreement

Following last year's historic presidential elections that brought President Hamid Karzai's government into office, Afghans once again headed to the polls in September this year to elect a new parliament, its first fully representative legislature in three decades. The birth of the new parliament also marked a successful conclusion of the Bonn Agreement, the political blueprint that has guided Afghanistan's transition to peace and national reconciliation since it was signed in Germany in December 2001.

The parliamentary election highlighted the immense strides Afghanistan has made in a few short years. Civil society and the media participated actively at every step of the process, and there was a marked improvement in how govern-

ment institutions managed the elections, particularly the military and the police.

Threats and attacks on election workers and candidates failed to derail the process. More than half of the 12.4 million registered voters went to the polls, with relatively few security incidents. About 5,800 candidates ran for election, with 25 percent of the seats reserved for women. In addition, women also won seats in their own right in about 13 of the 34 provinces. It took more than a month to count and certify the elections, and the final results were announced in early November.

In spite of positive changes, however, turnout was lower than expected in some parts of the country, and many

electoral complaints were filed. The single non-transferable voting system, under which people voted for individual candidates not political parties, saw many candidates without affiliation to any political party being elected into parliament at the expense of established political parties.

The 2005 parliamentary provincial council elections, which were supported by the United Nations, also presented significantly greater challenges than in 2004, from the need for extensive civic education to the transporting of voting materials to more than 26,000 polling stations – roughly ten times last year's volume – with some ballots listing hundreds of candidates. UNDP started training 270 parliamentary staff begin-

OCPI/UNAMA Photo by Freshta Dunya



Women mark their ballots in Afghanistan's National Assembly and Provincial Council elections, Kabul, 18 September 2005.

ning in February to ensure the smooth functioning of the legislature. The new Afghan parliament opened its first session in December, signaling the birth of a new nation and the fulfillment of a promise made four years ago in Bonn.

Meanwhile, the UN Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA) continued its work supporting Afghan institutions in the face of several challenges that included persistent security problems, a booming illegal economy fuelled by opium poppies, a weak justice system and government institutions susceptible to corruption. Nonetheless, the groundwork that UNAMA and its international partners laid over the past several years enabled important steps to be made towards further stability and development.

The disarmament, demobilization, and reintegration programme, which begun in 2003, was completed in July. Of the 63,380 ex-fighters who were disarmed under the programme, more than 60,000 had received or were undergoing training in agriculture or business. A few thousand combatants joined the Afghan National Army, which is expected to reach its target strength of 43,000 by September 2007, three years ahead of schedule. The current plan provides for the training of 62,000 police officers, two-thirds of whom were trained by the end of the year.

UNAMA has also taken an active role in mediating long-standing tribal disputes. The most successful was the settlement in June of a 60-year-old feud between the Balkhel and Sabari tribes in Khost province in the southeast. The dispute had caused the death of dozens of people in recent years, along with kidnappings, livestock losses, and the closure of an important road linking the affected area to the provincial capital.

Even without continued insecurity, Afghanistan faces enormous development challenges. The government's endorsement in 2005 of Afghanistan's first Millennium Development Goals Report, drafted with UNDP and UNAMA assistance, represented a crucial step. The priority of the UN family in the country will be to assist Afghanistan to meet the MDG targets. ■

Iraq: UNAMI underpins the transitional political process

Although events in Iraq during 2005 were well chronicled in the media, the contributions of the UN Assistance Mission in Iraq (UNAMI) received less attention. Yet throughout the year, UNAMI's team of political, electoral, constitutional, information, humanitarian and human rights experts-- working mostly from within Baghdad's International Zone and from Amman and Kuwait,--employed their expertise and resources to assist the Iraqi people and government with their political and economic development.

The mandate given UNAMI in Security Council resolution 1546 tasks the mission with facilitating the political process in Iraq and encouraging that process to be as inclusive and transparent as possible. In November 2005 the Security Council reaffirmed UNAMI's mandate with the passage of resolution 1637. To that end the Special Representative of the Secretary General and the UNAMI team engaged Iraqis of all political and ethnic backgrounds throughout the year.

As Iraq underwent the complexity of a political transition process, UNAMI focused its activities on providing political, electoral and constitutional support, while at the same time coordinating donor assistance and providing support for Iraq's reconstruction and development. The mission's human rights office monitored abuses and strove to support the rehabilitation of Iraqi institutions that would be responsible for improving the human rights situation in the country. Terrorism, torture, arbitrary detentions and extrajudicial killings continued to present a major challenge to the rule of law.

In 2005, the Iraqi people voted three times on the future of their country, including a referendum on 15 October on the new Iraqi constitution. Through its assistance to the Independent Electoral Commission of Iraq (IECI), the UN provided critical support to these electoral processes.

With UN assistance, Iraq was able to meet each major stage during the past year's political timetable as set by the Security Council. Elections for the Transitional National Assembly in January 2005, organized by the IECI, produced a Transitional Iraqi Government and set in motion the process to draft a national constitution. Intense negotiations over the drafting went on from May through mid-October, with the SRSG encouraging all parties to support the process, and emphasizing that the constitution be inclusive and representative of all Iraqis.

During this period, UNAMI's Office of Constitutional Support provided technical advice, capacity-building and donor coordination. Together with UNDP, the Office also arranged for the printing and dissemination of the constitution, while the Iraqi authorities were responsible for distributing it. UNAMI also mobilized the Iraqi media to raise public awareness of the entire process.

With the 15 December elections for a Council of Representatives, Iraq entered the last phase of its formal transition process under the Transitional Administrative Law. However, Iraq continues to face significant challenges, particularly with regard to national security, which continues to be a daunting and elusive goal.

While the tenuous security forced the UN's 95 international staff to remain largely confined to the Green Zone, the UN deployed hundreds of local and international staff in Iraq at the peak of operations during 2005, including in Basra and Erbil.

On 12 November, 2005 Secretary-General Kofi Annan visited Iraq to reiterate the UN's commitments.

In his last report of 2005, the Secretary-General cautioned that the December elections would not mark the end of the



Secretary-General Kofi Annan Arrives in Baghdad, Iraq, 12 November 2005

country's political transition, "but the beginning of a new phase in which responsible politics and leadership will make the difference between success and failure." In 2006 UNAMI is to remain

engaged in further implementing its Security Council mandate with a view to promoting national dialogue and reconciliation and shaping the democratic future of Iraq. ■

UNSCO mediates, coordinates UN work in the Middle East

For Gaza, where the United Nations Special Coordinator's Office (UNSCO) for the Middle East works to improve the prospects for real peace, the highlight of 2005 was Israel's unilateral withdrawal from the occupied Palestinian territories of Gaza Strip and parts of the northern West Bank. The withdrawal raised hopes of a resumption of the peace process under the Road Map, the peace plan presented to the parties in 2003 by the Quartet, a diplomatic grouping comprising the UN, the European Union, Russia and the United States.

This hope, however, has yet to be met. Following the withdrawal, there was a brief period of quiet before yet another cycle of violence was set in motion, causing deaths and injuries on both

sides. Restrictions on the movement of people and goods continued to have a devastating impact on the Palestinian economy. Israeli authorities eased restrictions somewhat on the movement of Palestinians in the West Bank this year by removing several military checkpoints, but numerous constraints to social and economic development remained. As a consequence, a high proportion of Palestinians now rely on humanitarian assistance.

UN agencies continued to deliver humanitarian and development assistance under the leadership of UNSCO. Meanwhile, UNSCO continued its mediation efforts, bilaterally with the parties to the peace process, and also as part of the wider international community. ■

Political missions:

The main tasks for UN political missions, which are run by the Department of Political Affairs, are to prevent or resolve deadly conflicts around the globe and to consolidate peace in societies emerging from war.

In May, the **UN Mission of Support in Timor-Leste (UNMISSET)** completed its mandate after six years of steering the country's independence from Indonesia. In its report released in July, the Commission of Experts set up to review the prosecution of serious crimes in Timor-Leste recommended that Indonesia review its prosecutions and that some cases of abuse be reopened.

As a testimony of UNMISSET's success and the country's political stability, its successor, the **UN Office in Timor-Leste (UNOTIL)**, did not have peacekeeping troops. The international community had recognized that Timor-Leste was safe and peaceful and that its authorities were able to take over the responsibility for maintaining internal and external security.

UNOTIL's mandate included support in capacity building to Timor-Leste's state institutions, such as the national police. In December, as evidence of the transformation of the world's newest nation from a beneficiary to a contributor to UN peacekeeping operations, 10 UNOTIL-trained police officers from the Timor-Leste national police were deployed for peacekeeping duties with the UN police contingents in Kosovo.

Meanwhile, Timor-Leste's relations with Indonesia continued to improve.

The **UN Observer Mission in Bougainville (UNOMB)** ended in June with the swearing in of Bougainville's first autonomous provincial government. The mission had helped to end violence in the province of Bougainville Island which had fought a long secessionist struggle against

Papua New Guinea. During its stay in the region, the UN was instrumental in negotiating, mediating and facilitating the resolution of the decade-long conflict that ended in 1998. The UN also supervised the collection and destruction of some 2,000 weapons, pushed the parties to meet agreed pre-election deadlines and ultimately facilitated the election itself.

The main tasks for UN political missions, which are run by the Department of Political Affairs, are to prevent or resolve deadly conflicts around the globe and to consolidate peace in societies emerging from wars.

With **The Central African Republic** gradually returning to a path of peace, economic recovery, reconstruction and sustainable development, the **UN Peacebuilding Support Office (BONUCA)** continued to pursue its mandate to strengthen political dialogue and promote the rule of law.

However, the country's economic recovery was hindered by an upsurge in cross-border banditry and the proliferation of weapons in the sub-region.

The **UN Peacebuilding Support Office in Guinea-Bissau (UNOGBIS)** supported the country's presidential elections in June and the run-off held in July. On 1 October, the winner, João Bernardo Vieira, was sworn into office as President, ending three decades of coups and counter-coups. With the swearing in of a new leader, the country hoped to move away from the divisions of the past towards a more harmonious and constructive future.

However, political tensions along personality and party lines continued to cast a shadow on the prospects for stability. Meanwhile, UNOGBIS continued to promote the rule of law and human rights, consolidate peace and assist national authorities in drafting

legislation on the prevention, treatment and control of HIV/AIDS.

The **UN Political Office for Somalia (UNPOS)** provided intensive support to the Somali National Reconciliation Conference held in Nairobi, Kenya, under the auspices of the Inter-governmental Authority on Development (IGAD), and worked with international partners to help Somali leaders agree on a transitional administration.

By early 2005, the Conference had produced a broad-based Transitional Federal Government which moved back to Somalia in mid-2005 from its temporary base in Nairobi.

Somalia continued to be beset by serious political problems, including an assassination attempt in November against Prime Minister Ali Mohammed Gedi in Mogadishu, and an increased inflow of illegal weapons inside the country in violation of the UN arms embargo and political violence.

The **UN Tajikistan Office of Peacebuilding (UNTOP)** was instrumental in helping to build democratic institutions and foster peace in the country during the vulnerable post-civil war period. It provided technical assistance for the parliamentary elections in February 2005.

UNOWA used its good offices to coordinate UN support to the region, mediate and organize meetings in an effort to address sub-regional cross-border challenges to peace and security.

UNTOP's human rights information resource centre became popular with Tajiks who were able to use it for studying human rights, accessing the internet and receiving legal consultations.

By the end of the year, UNTOP, with support from UNDP, had trained 1,100 police officers on human rights. More than 300 people from 41 district



UN Photo by Ian Steele

One of the demobilized women who recently graduated as a police officer after training offered by UNDP, Hargeisa, Somalia, 30 October 2005

commissions and 3,000 local election commission members took part in a series of seminars on international election standards, election laws and procedures in Tajikistan.

The **UN Office for West Africa (UNOWA)** was active in promoting cooperation among UN peacekeeping and political missions based in the region. There was visible progress in maintaining political stability in **Sierra Leone**, and in **Liberia**, where elections led to the election of the first women head of state in Africa, Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf.

The situation in **Togo** stabilized after days of violence caused by the death of former President Eyadema. However, a political stalemate in **Côte d'Ivoire** caused the postponement of the country's elections.

Regional challenges included the flow of small arms and light weapons in the region; disarmament, demobilization and reintegration of former combatants; the fight against HIV/AIDS; refugees and displaced persons and youth unemployment. ■

DPKO stresses conduct and a duty of care

Over the past year, DPKO set in motion sweeping reforms of the culture of peacekeeping, initiated in the wake of revelations of sexual exploitation and abuse on peacekeeping missions during the previous year.

In June, the General Assembly approved a wide-ranging package of recommendations proposed by the Secretary-General's Advisor on Sexual Exploitation and Abuse by UN Peacekeeping Personnel, Prince Zeid Ra'ad Zeid Al-Husseini.

Subsequently DPKO established Conduct and Discipline units at UN headquarters and in the eight largest peacekeeping operations, prepared a far-reaching policy on victims assistance, launched communications and public outreach strategies, designed and implemented mandatory training for personnel in all categories, strengthened management accountability, worked to improve living conditions and welfare for peacekeepers and made progress in amending legal agreements of various categories of peacekeeping personnel to include prohibitions on sexual exploitation and abuse. This included amendments to the memorandum of understanding between the UN and troop-contributing countries. The Secretary-General also appointed a

Group of Legal Experts to study ways to strengthen the criminal accountability of UN personnel who commit crimes while serving on UN peacekeeping operations. DPKO is also working with Member States to ensure effective follow up when offenders are repatriated.

A task force led by the UN Secretariat's two high-level policy groups--the Executive Committee on Peace and Security and the Executive Committee on Humanitarian Affairs--worked throughout the year to develop the details of these policy changes. Meanwhile, the Deputy Secretary-General visited five peacekeeping operations to carry the Secretary-General's message of zero tolerance for sexual misconduct.

In the field, investigations into allegations of sexual exploitation and abuse continued, now handled by the Office of Internal Oversight Services (OIOS). A comprehensive data base is being developed to track and report all misconduct cases. Since January 2004, investigations were completed of some 291 peacekeeping mission personnel, resulting in the dismissal of 16 civilians, the repatriation of 16 members of formed police units and 137 repatriations or rotations home on disciplinary grounds of military personnel, including six commanders.

The Peacekeeper's DUTY OF CARE

- You are privileged to have been selected to serve in a UN peacekeeping operation. This privilege confers upon you serious responsibilities towards the population you have come to serve.
- When serving in a peacekeeping operation, you represent the United Nations. The Blue Beret should be worn with pride and with awareness of its meaning to the world.
- The trust bestowed upon the United Nations and the mandate entrusted to the United Nations by the international community call upon you to exercise the highest standards of professional conduct and behaviour, whether on or off duty.
- UN peacekeepers are deployed into extraordinary situations in which local populations are often at extreme risk. The entire population that we serve are considered beneficiaries of our assistance. It is the duty of each peacekeeper to protect the vulnerable and to refrain from doing harm.
- UN peacekeepers have a unique opportunity to help populations emerging from difficult conflict situations and to contribute to a lasting peace and stability. Because of our sensitive role, misbehaviour of one single peacekeeper can diminish the positive role of the entire UN. Maintain respect for the local population and the highest standards of professionalism at all times.
- Any form of exploitation or abuse of the local population is unacceptable. UN standards of conduct forbid sexual exploitation and abuse. These standards apply to all peacekeepers irrespective of local customs or laws, or the customs or laws of your own country.
- The United Nations is an expression of the best hopes and aspirations of the international community. Each peacekeeper is an ambassador of this organization. Stay mindful of your role and of your responsibilities.

UN Photo by Ky Chung



Soldiers of ONUCI Ghanaian battalion 3 participate in sexual exploitation and awareness training, 22 July 2005

Mission such as MONUC in the DRC employed strict measures such as no-go areas and establishments, curfews and policies requiring troops to wear uniforms both on and off-duty. They also established focal points and hot lines to receive complaints from the public.

In order to reinforce the message that service with a UN peace operation is a privilege not a right, DPKO introduced the Peacekeepers Duty of Care (see box) and a film on conduct which stresses the crucial and unique relationships between individual peacekeepers and members of the host

population. DPKO is committed to eradicating exploitation and abuse with preventative and disciplinary measures while also reinforcing the message that UN peacekeepers make a real and tangible difference in peoples' lives all over the world in a service too important to be derailed by misconduct.

Gender in peacekeeping: an evolving field of practice

This year saw remarkable progress in women's participation in many aspects of peacekeeping in countries emerging from conflict.

In Afghanistan, an action plan developed by the **United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA)** to improve the participation of Afghan women in political life continued to have a significant impact. The Election Task Force chaired by UNAMA's gender advisor worked with various women's groups to promote women's representation in the election process both as voters and candidates. In the September parliamentary elections, 44 percent of the voters registered were women, an increase of 4 percent from the 2004 presidential elections. In the lower house of the new Parliament, 68 of 249 seats were reserved for women. In addition, women also won seats in their own right in about 13 of the 34 provinces.

Since the appointment of the first gender advisor of the **UN Office in Burundi (ONUB)** in 2004, a major focus has been disarmament, demobilization and reintegration of women fighters. As a result of the gender advisor's lobbying, the category of "women fighters" was redefined to include not only active fighters but also women who supported the war in different roles, including porters, cooks and sexual slaves. Of the 485 women disarmed in Burundi, 231 joined the country's police force. Using the same method, the **UN Mission in Liberia** facilitated the disarmament and demobilization of more than 21,000 women and girls.

When a provisional survey showed that women made up only 25-30 percent of those who registered to vote in Liberian elections, the interim government launched a nation-wide awareness campaign encouraging women to register. UNMIL supported initiatives advocating the government to adopt laws that would give women 30 percent representation on all political parties' candidates lists. Although the Electoral Reform Law did not include quotas, the political parties' guidelines stipulated that 30 percent of the candidates be women. In November, Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf was elected Africa's first woman head of state.

A full third of lawmakers in the new Burundi parliament are women, including the speaker of parliament and several cabinet ministers.

Despite progress achieved in involving women in peacekeeping missions, major challenges remain, including ending sexual exploitation and abuse by some peacekeepers. The UN's zero tolerance policy and strategies of prevention, enforcement of discipline standards and regulations, training and raising awareness, which the UN started implementing together with the Member States in 2004, has started to have real impact.

While these steps are clearly needed, abuse cannot be prevented without empowering women and girls through gender mainstreaming, and the inclusion of gender issues in all aspects of the UN's work. To advance the efforts, the Under-Secretary General for Peacekeeping Operations, Jean-Marie Guehenno,

issued new policy guidelines on gender mainstreaming in March, with an action plan finalized later in the year.

The adoption of gender sensitive approach in all aspects of peacekeeping remained a new area for the United Nations. Much more remains to be done to ensure that all peacekeeping personnel and Member States alike embrace gender mainstreaming as a critical strategy for making peacekeeping more effective. ■

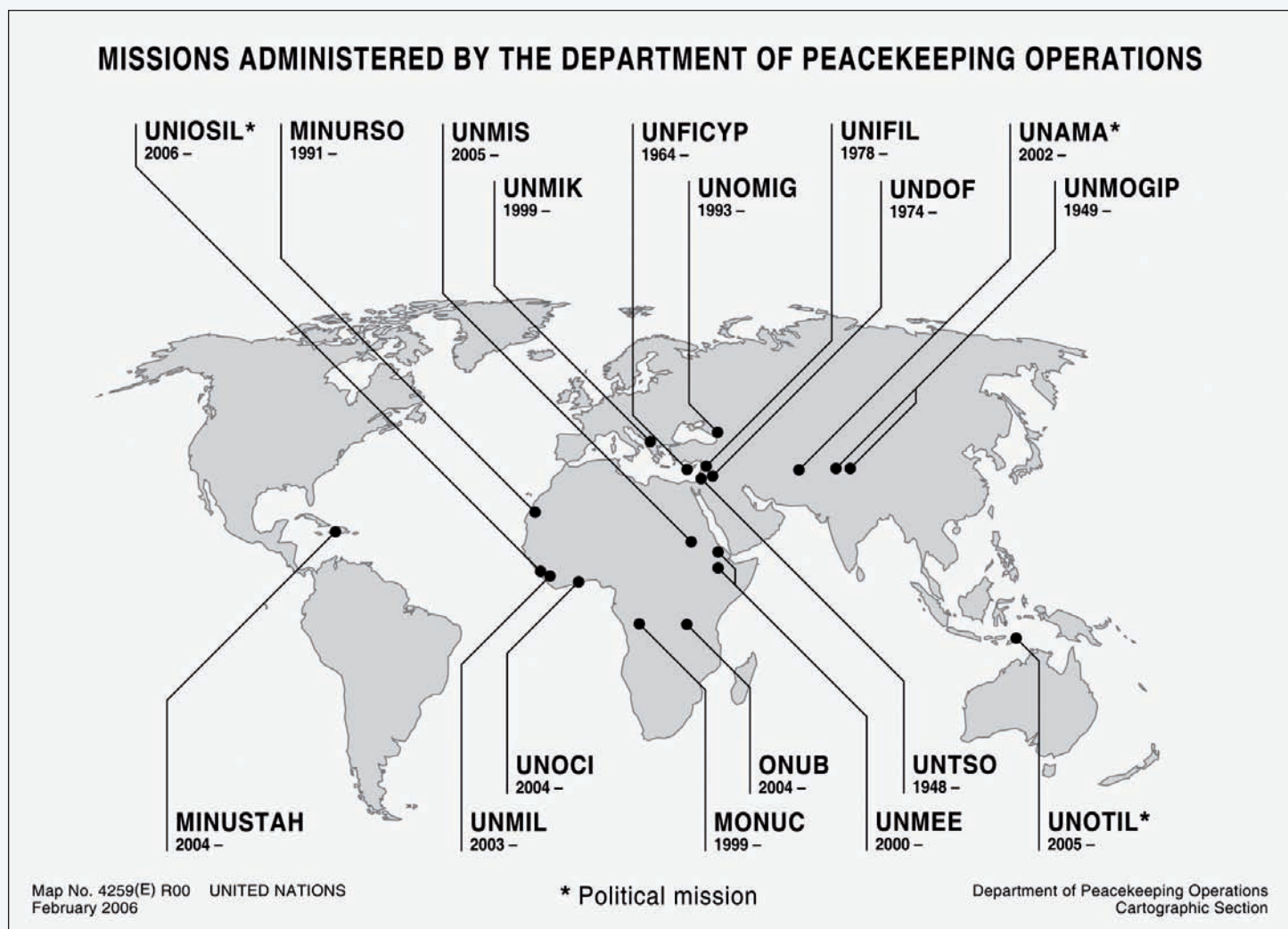


A potential police recruit hoping to make the minimum height (1.60m) required for a woman to register to become a HNP recruit, Police Academy in Frere, Haiti, 16 November 2005

MINUSTAH Photo by Sophia Paris

as of 31 December 2005

Peacekeeping operation since 194860
 Current peacekeeping operations15
 Current peace operations directed and supported by the Department of Peacekeeping Operations18



PERSONNEL

Uniformed personnel69,748
 Countries contributing military and police personnel108
 International civilian personnel 4,730
 Local civilian personnel 8,041
 UN Volunteers 1,649
 Total number of personnel serving in peacekeeping operations 83,808
 Total number of fatalities in peace operations since 19482,226
 Fatalities in 2005121

FINANCIAL ASPECTS

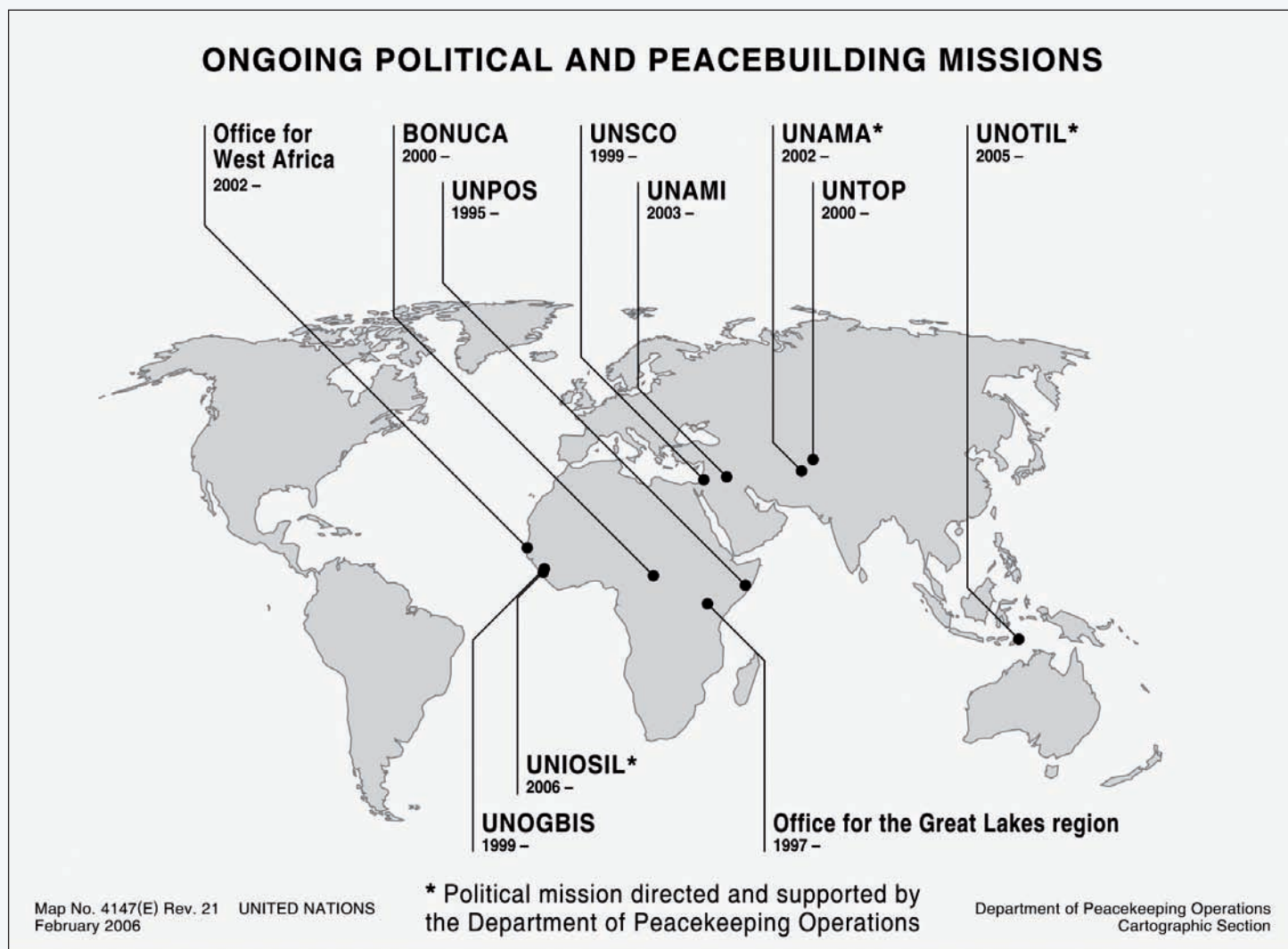
Approved resources for the period from 1 July 2005 to 30 June 2006..... About \$5.03 billion
 Estimated total cost of operations from 1948 to 30 June 2006..... About \$41.04 billion
 Outstanding contributions to peacekeeping (30 November 2005)..... About \$1.99 billion

NOTE: The term “uniformed personnel” refers to troops, military observers, and UN police.

CURRENT PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS

UNTSO United Nations Truce Supervision Organization Strength: military observer 150; international civilian 104; local civilian 119; total personnel 371 Fatalities: 44 Appropriation 2005: \$29.04 million	Since May 1948	UNMEE United Nations Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea Strength: military observer 202; troop 3,130; international civilian 191; local civilian 228; UN volunteer 75; total personnel 3,837 Fatalities: 13 Approved budget 07/05–06/06: \$185.99 million	Since July 2000
UNMOGIP United Nations Military Observer Group in India and Pakistan Strength: military observer 42; international civilian 22; local civilian 47; total personnel 110 Fatalities: 11 Appropriation 2005: \$8.37 million	Since January 1949	UNMIL United Nations Mission in Liberia Strength: military observer 197; troop 14,824; police 1,091; international civilian 552; local civilian 828; UN volunteer 286; total personnel 17,768 Fatalities: 67 Approved budget 07/05–06/06: \$760.57 million	Since September 2003
UNFICYP United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus Strength: troop 840; police 69; international civilian 37; local civil- ian 110; total personnel 1,057 Fatalities: 175 Approved budget 07/05–06/06: \$46.51 million including volun- tary contributions of one third from Cyprus and \$6.5 million from Greece	Since March 1964	UNOCI United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire Strength: military observer 195; troop 6,698; police 696; interna- tional civilian 358 ; local civilian 424; UN volunteer 205; total personnel 8,541 Fatalities: 14 Approved budget 07/05–06/06: \$438.17 million	Since April 2004
UNDOF United Nations Disengagement Observer Force Strength: troop 1,047; international civilian 37; local civilian 105; total personnel 1,188 Fatalities: 42 Approved budget 07/05–06/06: \$43.71 million	Since June 1974	MINUSTAH United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti Strength: troop 7,286; police 1,748; international civilian 449; local civilian 512; UN volunteer 171; total personnel 10,108 Fatalities: 13 Approved budget 07/05–06/06: \$541.30 million	Since June 2004
UNIFIL United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon Strength: troop 1,989; international civilian 100; local civilian 297; total personnel 2,390 Fatalities: 256 Approved budget 07/05–06/06: \$99.23 million	Since March 1978	ONUB United Nations Operation in Burundi Current strength: military observer 187; troop 5,170; police 82; international civilian 316; local civilian 388; UN volunteer 146; total personnel 6,466 Fatalities: 20 Approved budget 07/05–06/06 \$307.69 million	Since June 2004
MINURSO United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara Strength: military observer 195; troop 31; police 6; international civilian 120; local civilian 96; total personnel 449 Fatalities: 14 Approved budget 07/05–06/06: \$47.95 million	Since April 1991	UNMIS United Nations Mission in the Sudan Strength: authorized – troop 10,000; civilian police 715; proposed – international civilian 1,018; local civilian 2,632; UN volunteer 214; total personnel 14,579 Current strength: military observer 467; troop 4,009; police 289; inter- national civilian 526; local civilian 1,023; UN Volunteers 71; total personnel 5,783 Approved budget 07/05–06/06: \$969.47 million	Since March 2005
UNOMIG United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia Strength: military observer 122; police 12; international civilian 107; local civilian 187; UN volunteer 2, total personnel 419 Fatalities: 10 Approved budget 07/05–06/06: \$36.38 million	Since August 1993	<i>Missions completed in 2005:</i>	
UNMIK United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo Strength: military observer 37; police 2,146; international civilian 623; local civilian 2,289; UN volunteer 202; total personnel 5,482 Fatalities: 42 Approved budget 07/05–06/06: \$252.55 million	Since June 1999	UNAMSIL United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone Peak strength: (31 March 2002); military 17,368; UN Police 87; international civilian 322; local civilian 552 Fatalities: 188 Total expenditures: \$2.8 billion	(22 October 1999 – 31 December 2005)
MONUC United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo Strength: military observer 707; troop 15,046; police 1,038; international civilian 828; local civilian 1,388; UN volunteer 491; total personnel 19,247 Fatalities: 75 Approved budget 07/05–06/06: \$1,153.89 million	Since November 1999	UNMISSET United Nations Mission of Support in East Timor Peak strength: (31 August 2002): military 4,776; UN police 771; international civilian 465; local civilian 856; Fatalities: 25 Total estimated expenditures: \$565 million	(20 May 2002 - 20 May 2005)

NOTE: UNTSO and UNMOGIP are funded from the United Nations regular biennial budget. Costs to the United Nations of the other current operations are financed from their own separate accounts on the basis of legally binding assessments on all Member States. For these missions, budget figures are for one year unless otherwise specified. All budgets include requirements for the support account for peacekeeping operations and the UN Logistics Base in Brindisi (Italy).



NUMBER OF MISSIONS 11

PERSONNEL

Uniformed personnel139

International civilian personnel 817

Local civilian personnel1,741

UN Volunteers163

Total number of personnel serving in political and peacebuilding missions2,860

CURRENT POLITICAL AND PEACE-BUILDING MISSIONS

UNAMA* Since 28 March 2002
United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan
Special Representative of the Secretary-General: Jean Arnault (France)
Strength: international civilian 185; local civilian 751; military observer 11; civilian police 7; UN volunteer 42

BONUCA Since 15 February 2000
United Nations Peacebuilding Office in the Central African Republic
Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of BONUCA: Lamine Cissé (Senegal)
Strength: international civilian 25; military advisers 5; police 6; local civilian 44; UN volunteer 2

Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for the Great Lakes Region Since 19 December 1997
Special Representative of the Secretary-General: Ibrahima Fall (Senegal)
Strength: international civilian 8; local civilian 8

UNOGBIS Since 3 March 1999
United Nations Peacebuilding Support Office in Guinea-Bissau
Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of UNOGBIS: João Bernardo Honwana (Mozambique)
Strength: international civilian 11; military adviser 2; police adviser 1; local civilian 13

UNSCO Since 1 October 1999
Office of the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East
Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process and Personal Representative of the Secretary-General to the Palestine Liberation Organization and the Palestinian Authority: Alvaro de Soto (Peru)
Strength: international civilian 27; local civilian 23

UNPOS Since 15 April 1995
United Nations Political Office for Somalia
Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of UNPOS: Francois Lonseny Fall (Guinea)
Strength: international civilian 5; local civilian 3

UNTOP Since 1 June 2000
United Nations Tajikistan Office of Peacebuilding
Representative of the Secretary-General for Tajikistan: Vladimir Sotirov (Bulgaria)
Strength: international civilian 10; police adviser 1; local civilian 18

Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for West Africa Since 29 November 2001
Special Representative of the Secretary-General: Ahmedou Ould-Abdallah (Mauritania)
Strength: international civilian 7; local civilian 7

UNAMI Since 14 August 2003
United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq
Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Iraq: Ashraf Jehangir Qazi (Pakistan)
Authorized strength: 816 (344 international, 472 local)
Current strength (staff based in Iraq, Jordan and Kuwait): international civilian 222; local civilian 365; military advisor 5

UNOTIL* Since 21 May 2005
United Nations Office in Timor-Leste
Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of Office: Sukehiro Hasegawa (Japan)
Strength: international civilian 158; local civilian 281; military advisor 15; police 57; UN volunteer 36

UNIOSIL* Since 1 January 2006
United Nations Integrated Office in Sierra Leone
Executive Representative for UNIOSIL: Victor da Silva Angelo (Portugal)
Strength: international civilian 159; local civilian 228; military observers 10; police 20; UN volunteer 83

Mission completed in 2005:

UNOMB 1 January 2004 - 30 June 2005
United Nations Observer Mission in Bougainville

* Political or peacebuilding mission directed and supported by the Department of Peacekeeping Operations. All other political and peacebuilding missions are directed by the Department of Political Affairs. For information on political and peace-building missions, visit the United Nations website at http://www.un.org/Depts/dpa/prev_dip/fst_prev_dip.htm

PEACEKEEPING CONTRIBUTIONS

Military observers, Police and Troops as of 31 December 2005

No.	Country	Police	Milob	Troops	Total
1.	Albania		3		3
2.	Algeria		10	2	12
3.	Argentina	26	7	864	897
4.	Australia	18	23	9	50
5.	Austria	24	15	385	424
6.	Bangladesh	478	92	8,959	9,529
7.	Belgium		15	1	16
8.	Benin	77	32	312	421
9.	Bolivia		21	223	244
10.	Bosnia and Herzegovina	23	14		37
11.	Brazil	14	30	1,226	1,270
12.	Bulgaria	52	8	2	62
13.	Burkina Faso	169	23	2	194
14.	Cambodia		4		4
15.	Cameroon	135	4		139
16.	Canada	136	40	211	387
17.	Central African Republic	11			11
18.	Chad	34	12		46
19.	Chile	23	6	541	570
20.	China	197	71	791	1,059
21.	Congo		5		5
22.	Cote d'Ivoire	8			8
23.	Croatia	5	20	9	34
24.	Czech Republic	17	14		31
25.	Denmark	25	33	7	65
26.	Djibouti	40			40
27.	Dominican Republic		4		4
28.	Ecuador		25	68	93
29.	Egypt	50	69	623	742
30.	El Salvador	21	16		37
31.	Estonia		2		2
32.	Ethiopia		22	3,388	3,410
33.	Fiji	55	2		57
34.	Finland	8	28	4	40
35.	France	152	38	392	582
36.	Gabon		5		5
37.	Gambia	30	16	3	49
38.	Germany	252	17	24	293
39.	Ghana	84	62	2,374	2,520
40.	Greece	11	13	2	26
41.	Guatemala		26	189	215
42.	Guinea	96	19		115
43.	Honduras		12		12
44.	Hungary	10	14	82	106
45.	India	381	93	6,810	7,284
46.	Indonesia		24	175	199
47.	Iran		3		3
48.	Ireland	18	26	429	473
49.	Italy	38	21	53	112
50.	Jamaica	15			15
51.	Japan			30	30
52.	Jordan	739	76	2,888	3,703
53.	Kenya	62	79	1,341	1,482
54.	Kyrgyzstan	5	14		19

No.	Country	Police	Milob	Troops	Total
55.	Lebanon	2			2
56.	Lithuania	8			8
57.	Madagascar	6			6
58.	Malawi	27	37	112	176
59.	Malaysia	16	52	7	75
60.	Mali	35	49	3	87
61.	Moldova		9	1	10
62.	Mongolia		5		5
63.	Morocco		5	1,701	1,706
64.	Mozambique		6	12	18
65.	Namibia	7	21	862	890
66.	Nepal	431	41	2,994	3,466
67.	Netherlands	9	14	1	24
68.	New Zealand		12	1	13
69.	Niger	104	27	367	498
70.	Nigeria	374	84	1,954	2,412
71.	Norway	27	29	8	64
72.	Pakistan	394	107	8,498	8,999
73.	Palau	2			2
74.	Paraguay		46	6	52
75.	Peru		31	214	245
76.	Philippines	113	30	340	483
77.	Poland	129	21	555	705
78.	Portugal	16	6		22
79.	Republic of Korea		28	21	49
80.	Romania	191	54		245
81.	Russia	115	96	1	212
82.	Rwanda		15	255	270
83.	Samoa	21			21
84.	Senegal	416	41	1,388	1,845
85.	Serbia and Montenegro	7	8	6	21
86.	Sierra Leone	7		250	257
87.	Slovakia		2	290	292
88.	Slovenia	15	2		17
89.	South Africa		26	1,984	2,010
90.	Spain	43	7	203	253
91.	Sri Lanka	40	11	961	1,012
92.	Sweden	64	27	236	327
93.	Switzerland	7	18	1	26
94.	Thailand		3	177	180
95.	Timor-Leste	10			10
96.	Togo	10	18	300	328
97.	Tunisia		50	474	524
98.	Turkey	236	5	3	244
99.	Uganda	33	12	2	47
100.	Ukraine	202	32	486	720
101.	United Kingdom	69	14	266	349
102.	United Rep. of Tanzania	3	18	3	24
103.	United States of America	359	18	10	387
104.	Uruguay	16	67	2,345	2,428
105.	Vanuatu	9			9
106.	Yemen	9	26	1	36
107.	Zambia	50	49	352	451
108.	Zimbabwe	70	20		90

* Includes 90 uniformed personnel from UNAMA, UNOTIL and UNIOSIL, which are political or peacebuilding missions also directed and supported by the Department of Peacekeeping Operations

Totals

POLICE	UNMO	TROOP
7,241	2,527	60,070

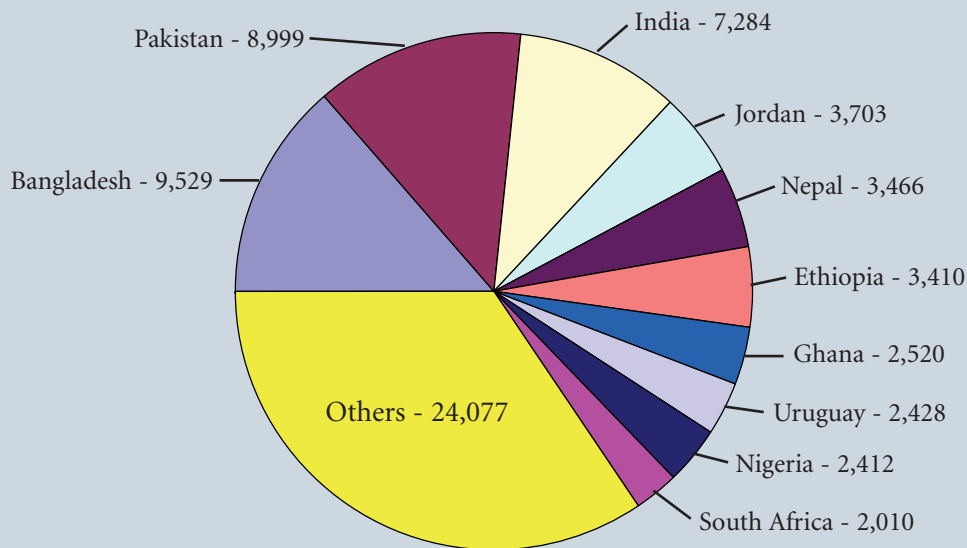
Grand total in PKO

69,838*

PEACEKEEPING 2005 IN A SNAP SHOT

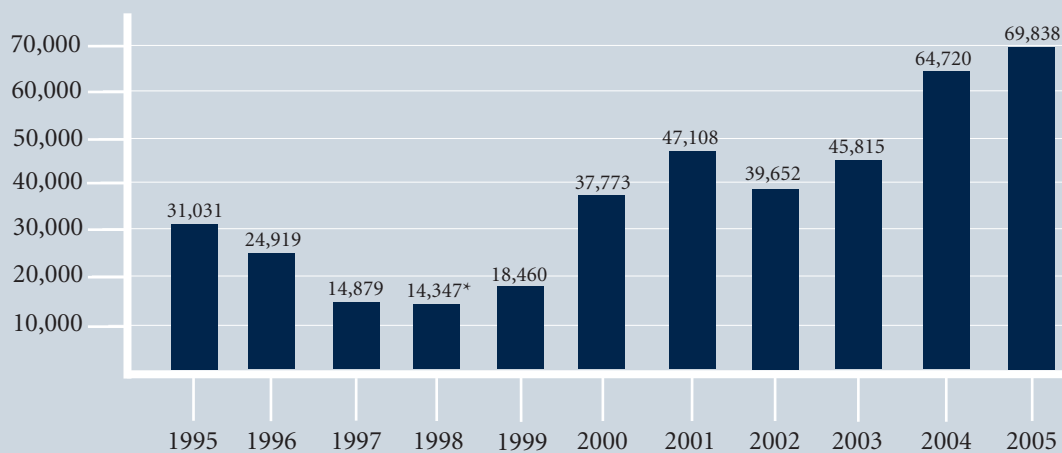
Top 10 Troop Contributors

As of 31 December 2005



Surge in Troops: 1995-2005

As of 31 December of each year



* As of 30 November 2004

Troop Strength of UN Peace Operations in Africa

As of 31 December 2005

